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Kuwaiti defence minister in Damascus

DAMASCUS (AP) - Kuwait's defence minister, Sheikh Ali Sabah Al

Salem Al Sabah, arrived in Syria on Monday for talks expected to focus on Gulf security. In an arrival statement, Sheikh Ali said he was carrying a message from the Kuwaiti emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, for

Syrian President Hafez Assad. He did not reveal its contents. Asked

about cooperation between the Kuwaiti military and other forces in the U.S.-led coalition in the Gulf, Sheikh Ali acknowledged that Kuwait still needed outside help. "Kuwait, as a small and damaged nation, cannot

confront Iraq, especially as there are still some worrying (Iraqi) statements," he said. He noted that Kuwait has held talks with Syria. Egypt and the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council "for the continued presented of Arab forces in Kuwait and for a period which will be agreed

King receives cables of support

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Court announced Monday that it had received cables addressed to His Majesty King Hussein, voicing support for his policies as outlined by the King in his address to the Royal War College recently. The cables expressed total backing for the King's views for solidarity among Arab countries in the wake of the Gulf

Iraq appoints new oil minister

BAGHDAD (R) - Iraq has made its minister of state for oil. Usama Abdul Razzaq, the country's new oil minister, the Iraqi news agency (INA) reported on Monday. Abdul Razzaq became a minister of state in the new government formed by Prime Minister Saadoun Hammadi in March. The agency gave no details about the appointment. Iraq's Minister of Heavy Industry and Military Industrialisation General Amer Hammoudi Al Saadi was appointed acting oil minister in March.

Soviet lawmakers to visit iraq

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MOSCOW (AP) - A delegation from the hard-line Soyuz faction of Soviet lawmakers plans to visit Iraq in the first half of June, the state news agency TASS reported Monday. Before and during the Gulf war, members of Soyuz voiced misgivings about the Soviet Union's moral support for the international military action against Iraq. The visit to Iraq by members of the Supreme Soviet legislature could mark an effort by Soyuz to repair relations between Moscow and Baghdad, once a close Soviet ally.

U.S. imposes sanctions on China

NEW HAVEN, Connecticut (R) The Bush administration has imposed new curbs on hightechnology exports to China be-cause of Beijing's alleged sale of missiles and other advanced weaponary to countries like Pakistan, a senior administration official said on Monday. "As of today, China will not have access to high-speed computers. This is directly related to missile technology control violations," the offi-cial said. The official, who asked not to be identified, briefed reporters as President George Bush was flying here to deliver an address at Yale University.

trag releases conscripts

BAGHDAD (R) - Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has decided to release army conscripts born in 1961, 1962 and 1963, the army newspaper Al Qadisiya said on Monday. The oldest group will be demobilised on Tuesday and the other two groups within a few days, it said. Iraq has disbanded its popular army, said to be one million strong, since the end of the Gulf war in late February. The newspaper Babil said on Sunday soldiers on reserve duty were asking how they would live without salaries once they are discharged.

Ben Ali in Spain

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali arrived in Spain Monday on a visit aimed at winning economic and political support for the North African country. King Juan Carlos and Socialist Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez greeted Ben Ali at El Pardo palace, where he was to stay during the two-day visit. After a private lunch with Juan Carlos, Ben Ali was to meet with Gonzalez. The two countries were to sign scientific and cultural cooperation

agreements. Iraq ready to export oll through Turkey

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iraq is ready to resume oil exports through Turkey as soon as the U.N. sanctions committee approves, the State Minister for Oil Affairs, Ussama Abdul Razzak Al Heeti, said Monday. Al Heetee told a press conference in Baghdad that Turkish officials last week said they were ready to help Iraq resume those exports. (See related story page 2).

Government orders ceasefire; U.S. calls on rebels to enter capital

Addis Ababa braces for final rebel push

Combined agency dispatches

ETHIOPIAN Prime Minister Tesfaye Dinka on Monday threw doubt on the future of peace talks in London, saying he rejected an American call for rebel troops to take over the capital Addis Aba-

A visibly angry Tesfaye told a news conference: "This step of inviting the EPRDF to go into Addis Ababa is the wrong

Dinka said his government would take no further part in U.S.-brokered peace talks unless the invitation to the rebels of the Ethiopian People's Revolution-

mediate ceasefire to help create a good climate for the London

into the capital was reversed.

Earlier U.S. diplomat Herman Cohen, brokering talks between the government and three main rebel factions, announced that the government was declaring a

Cohen said the United States recommended the EPRDF forces enter the city as soon as possible "to help stabilise the situation." In Addis Ababa, the State Council issued a statement ordering its forces to observe an im-

Tesfaye said he also wanted

outside the country to be included in the peace negotiations, which had been due to start in earnest on Tuesday.

Cohen on Monday held preliminary separate talks with Tesraye, the EPRDF and two other rebel groups - the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) and the Oromo Liberation Front.

Outside the London hotel venue for the talks, an EPRDF leader dismissed Tesfaye's state-"He is no position to reject or

accept anything," Meles Zenawi

(Continued on page 5)



King receives Ecevit

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received former Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit. The King and Mr. Ecevit reviewed the situation in the region in the light of the latest developments. King Hussein and Mr. Ecevit discussed also Arab-Turkish relations in general and Jordanian Turkish relations

in particular. (Petra photo)

BAN HUAY KHAMIN, Thaiboard the Lauda-Air flight in officials said. It had taken off

land (R) — An Austrian airliner exploded into a fireball before crashing into a jungle hilltop in Thailand, killing all 223 people

Austrian police, however, discredited earlier reports that a bomb brought down the Boeing 767-300 owned by the airline founded by former world motor racing champion Niki Lauda.

The Lauda-Air Boeing crashed around midnight on Sunday about 200 kilometres northwest of

the Thai capital. Flight NG004 disappeared city at the same time as Laudaradar screen about 16 minutes after takeoff, Piyasak Chuket, deputy director general of Thailand's aviation department, told

reporters on Monday. The pilot had not reported any problems, he said, adding this could indicate the plane exploded or caught fire without warning. He declined to speculate

whether the crash was caused by a bomb. Searchers said they found the airliner's flight recorders on Mon-

day afternoon. Landa, who was to leave Austria for Thailand, said a man telephoned Vienna international airport shortly after news of the crash was announced and said a

Bangkok. The man said the bomb had been intended for a United Air-

Lieutenant-Colonel Alfred Rupf of Vienna airport security later told Austrian radio the caller was not claiming responsibility

lines flight, Lauda added.

for the crash.
"The caller wanted only to give us a tip on how the accident might have happened," he said.

United Airlines in Bangkok said it had no flights leaving the

About 300 police and rescue workers were trying to recover bodies from still-burning wreck-

age carpeting a bomboo grove on the 500-metre hilltop. Their efforts were hampered by thousands of people who tramped up the jurigled hillside to

pick through the wreckage for clothing and valuables. Shoes, handbags and clothing were littered around the crash site. Severed limbs hung from trees. Rescue workers carried

bodies and parts of bodies slung to bamboo poles. Derbis was strewn over about

five kilometres and searchers said their work could take two days. There were 213 passengers and 10 crew on board the plane, Thai

from Bangkok where it stopped during a flight from Hong Kong to Vienna. Initial reports said the plane

caught fire before exploding, said Colonel Narong Kulavimonpratiep, chief police investigator at the site northwest of the Thai provincial town of Suphan Buri. "There was a fireball in the sky, then a big boom," a witness

Sergeant Prayuth Sai-Ngern

said he saw fire engulf the plane "like a firework rocket" as it

King condoles Waldheim

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Mon-day telephoned his condolences to Austrian President Kurt Waldheim expressing his deep sadness over the loss of human life when an Austrian airliner crashed in Thailand Sunday night. The plane with 223 people on board, exploded into a fireball before crashing into a jungle hilltop in Thailand

"It lit up the dark sky," he

The crash, Thailand's worst aviation disaster, was the first involving a Boeing 767 since the twin-engined jet's introduction in 1982, a spokesman for Boeing said.

The company said it was sending crash investigators to Thai-

Rescue workers said the largest piece of wreckage was two metres

They said they found 80 bodies around pieces of the fuselage and 30 bodies near a part of the nose section found for kilometres

Among the passengers were 34 Austrians, including leading financial analyst Professor Clemens-August Andreae, and a party of students and lecturers from Innsbruck University.

The passengers — 125 of them embarking in Hong Kong and 88 in Bangkok - including Swiss, Australians, Thais, Britons and other nationalities. A full passenger list was still being drawn up. It was Thailand's second major disaster in less than a year.

Last November, 38 people

were killed, mostly foreign tourists, when a Bangkok Airways turboprop crashed on the south-

scene under Anwar Sadat, Nas-

ser's successor, in the mid-1970s

It boycotted last year's par-

liamentary elections after having

been represented in the previous

chamber as part of the opposition

also rejected the announcement

by the six members of the Gulf

Cooperation Council that they

are willing to attend a regional

conference to discuss peace with

Israel. The Gulf states also

agreed to hold direct contacts

with the Jewish state on non-

The Brotherhood statement

Socialist Labour Party.

but it remains officially banned.

assembly ratifies

ratified a treaty on Monday committing Lebanon to close cooperation with its powerful neighbour Syria.

President Elias Hrawi.

Israel has strongly criticised

deputies voted to ratify. Only one, Albert Mukhaiber, voted against, saying it would give Israel an excuse to retain a buffer strip it controls

Prime Minister Omar Kara-

prosperity." Karami said.

The six-hour parliamentary session was attended by most members of Hrawi's government. Two Christian members who had voiced reservations about the treaty, Roger Dib and George Saadeh, were ab-

Civil war began in 1975. thirds of its area.

ratify it this week.



lebanese

The pact was agreed to in principle 18 months ago as part of a deal among Muslim and Christian factions which has since ended fighting in a 16year civil war and set central government on the road to recovery under Syrian-backed

the treaty, saying it allows Syria to swallow its tiny neigh-

Forty-five of parliament's 67

along the southern border.

mi told the assembly the treaty of brotherhood, coordination and cooperation reflected "historic and geographic facts" that bind the two countries.

"Lebanon can't live in isolation from Syria... the more the relations between us are strengthened, the more they will reflect positively on Lebanon and the Lebanese in terms of security, stability and

Syria which sees eastern Lebanon as a potential back door to Damascus for Israeli forces. intervened within a year and has 40,000 troops still in the country controlling about two-

The treaty calls for cooperation in political, military. security, economic and cultural

Hrawi and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad signed the pact in Damascus last week. The Syrian parliament is due to

Pan-Arabists discuss nation's ills

By Serene Halasa Special to the Jordan Times

upon later on."

AMMAN — A Pan-Arab national conference opened here Monday to address the challenges facing the Arab Nation in the aftermath of the Gulf war, and human rights issues in the Arab

In an opening speech to the conference, the second of its kind, Dr. Kheir Eddin Hassib, an Iraqi director of the Beirut-based Arab Unity Studies Centre reviewed recent developments in the region including the Gulf crisis and the war that followed, stressing that the time of the conference comes at a critical period in the history of the Arab World. The first conference organised by the Arab Unity Centre was held in Tunis, in 1990.

Dr. Hassib urged the participants to live up to their expected ranged between \$500 million to responsibilities as Arab thinkers and intellectuals and play an ac-

tive role in formulating ideas and plans, including ways to healing Arab wounds and ending inter-Arab differences.

Over 100 participants from many Arab countries take part in the three-day conference. The participants are independent thinkers and intellectuals and hold no official office in their countries. Most of the Gulf states except for Qatar had no repre-

A number of working papers are being submitted to the conference by the unity centre and the participants. One working paper presented at the first session was on indicated private Arab investment. The paper revealed that Arab investment totalled \$227 million in 1987 but dropped to \$168 million in 1988. The paper also revealed that financial operations by Arab development funds

(Continued on page 5)

Palestinian factions reconcile in Damascus DAMASCUS (R) - Supporters conflict. All the parties are trying

and opponents of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat held reconciliation talks in Damascus on Monday to try to end more than seven years of animosity

Khaled Al Fahoum, leader of the anti-Arafat Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF), told Reuters he met a PLO delegation led by Farouk Kaddoumi, chief of the PLO's political department, to discuss how to heal the rift. Fahoum, former speaker of the Palestine National Council

exile, said the Palestine Liberation Organisation delegation wel-comed a recent PNSF call for all Palestinian factions to unite. "They welcomed the initiative. and we agreed to hold further

contacts to enfore the PNSF offer which calls for the setting up of a joint committee grouping representatives of all factions to form a new PNC," Fahoum said. The PLO delegation, visiting Damascus for the first time since

1988, agreed during talks with Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara to end their dispute with Syria, which is home to several anti-Arafat Palestinian factions. Syria backed a rebellion against Arafat in 1983 but relations improved last year when

Damascus released hundreds of Palestinians from Syrian jails. The PNSF's reconciliation call followed increased international efforts to solve the Arab-Israeli

to secure a place in any proposed

The PNSF groups the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, the Fatch Uprising which rebelled against Arafat in 1983, the Sa'iga and the Communist Party.

Fahoum said the talks with the PLO delegation also covered the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem.

He said both sides wanted the United Nations, the European and the Soviet Union to attend any peace conference, which should observe the Palestinian people's right of selfdetermination and to an indepen-

dent state. The United States and the Soviet Union have been seeking to coax Arabs and Israelis to the conference table.

Israel has said it would not accept a U.N. role in the peace conference. It refuses to talk to the PLO which it terms a terrorist organisation.

Palestinian sources said they were prepared to be flexible on representation and would agree to a delegation elected freely and under international supervision from the Israeli-occupied territor-

Palestinian sources said the PLO delegation would meet President Hafez Al Assad before ending its visit to Syria.

Israel not meeting conditions for prisoners swap — Hizbollah

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — The admitted it is holding two Israelinew leader of Hizbollah consoldiers. firmed Monday that his group is holding two Israeli soldiers but said the Jewish state has not yet met conditions for a prisoner

Abbas Musawi, elected last week as head of the fundamentalist Shiite Muslim party, said in a radio interview that Hizbollah demanded the release of Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners held by Israel in exchange for the Israeli captives. He said, however, that Israel

was willing to release only In Israel, Defence Minister Moshe Arens voiced optimism

over prospects for a prisoner ex-

"For the first time there is talk about the possibility and readiness to come to an agreement with us," Arens told Israel radio.

"So there is room for a certain and limited degree of optimism." Israel has expressed willingness to swap prisoners but has repeatedly insisted on "signs of life" of its missing servicemen. It has urged that the International Committee of the Red Cross be

to determine their condition. Musawi's remarks to the leftist Voice of the People Radio station years that Hizbollah has publicly Gaza Strip.

"We have two Israeli prisoners

and a few soldiers of Lahd's force," Musawi said. Maj. Gen. Antoine Lahd is commander of the South Leba-

non Army militia, which is equipped and financed by Israel to patrol the "security zone" Israel maintains in south Lebanon to shield its border from attacks. Musawi did not give the names

of ranks of the Israeli soldiers, but they were believed to be Yossi Fink and Rahamin Alsheikh, captured Feb. 17, 1986, in an ambush in the security

A third missing Israeli, air force navigator Ron Arad, was captured after his jet was shot down in Lebanon the same year, but he is believed held by another Shiite faction.

Hizbollah in 1986 claimed responsibility for capturing Fink and Alsheikh. The last time Hizbollah publicly mentioned two missing Israeli soldiers was in a communique in February 1988.

At that time, Hizbollah's Islamic Resistance - the wing fighting in south Lebanon -allowed to see the Israeli captives threatened to kill one of the two Israeli captives if Israel continued its crackdown on Palestinians in marked the first time in three the occupied West Bank and

bomb had been mistakenly put on Kuwait extends martial law

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait extended martial law by one month on Monday and launched a drive against armed crime and torture of suspected collaborators with Iraq. Cabinet Affairs Minister Dari

martial law, giving the military wide powers to search and detain. would be prolonged until June There was no official announcement in Kuwait itself.

Al Othman was quoted by a

Kuwaiti newspaper as saying

Sawt Al Kuwait (Voice of Knwait) is a widely read Londonbased newspaper with close links to state security. The extension of martial law coincided with a government drive against the illegal posses-

sion of arms, freelance abduction of suspected collaborators by selfstyled militias and armed crime. Martial law was imposed after U.S.-led troops entered Kuwait at the end of February.

Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdulla Al Sabah said on Sunday, in his toughest speech since the war ended, that he wanted an end to vigilante law, armed crime and the abduction and torture of some non-Kuwaiti citizens.

"These elements must be arrested, questioned and brought to trial. We must not lose the international support we have on account of irresponsible acts by individuals," be told the nation. Opposition leaders and West-

em diplomats gave the address a

cautions welcome.

Egyptian Brotherhood warns against peace with Israel

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — The Muslim Brotherhood Monday attacked U.S. Secretary of State final analysis, the plans serve the ser. It returned to the political the Palestinian problem peacefully and warned Arab states not to

negotiate with Israel. Mohammad Hamed Abul Nasr, the Brotherhood's top leader, said in a press statement that Arab countries should unite to give Palestine back to the Palestinians, an indirect call for Israel's liquidation.

Palestine was under Britishmandate before the creation of the Jewish state in 1948. "All the political plans that are proposed on the Arab and international fronts for a comprehen-

sive solution to the Palestinian

bitterness over Israel's settle-

ments in the occupied Arab

"I believe he made a serious

mistake because others under-

stood it to single out Israel for

blame in blocking the peace pro-cess," Levy told reporters.

The criticism from Levy, usual-

ly a more moderate voice in the

hardline government, reignited

U.S.-Israeli differences only days

after they jointly celebrated the

airlift of 14,500 Ethiopian Jews to

"I very much regret this re-

sponse gives expression to some sort of bitterness," Levy said.

James A. Baker's efforts to settle Jewish enemy's strategy," the statement said.

He did not single out Baker by name. But he was clearly referring to the secretary's four trips to the Middle East since mid-March which represent the only current major effort for a negotiated Palestinian settlement.

"The Muslim Brotherhoodcompletely rejects all political

projects proposed to resolve the Palestinian issue," Abul Nasr

The Muslim Brotherhood, founded in 1928, was disbanded in 1954 after some of its leading activists were charged with an political issues.

Levy: Baker erred in criticising settlements TEL AVIV (R) — Foreign Minister David Levy accused celebrate over this and Arab new settlements. states will seize on this answer U.S. Secretary of State James Baker Monday of making a serious mistake by publicly voicing instead of offering answers (to take steps remedying any im-

peace)," he said.

About 100,000 Jews live in settlements among the 1.75 million Palestinians waging a revolt against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Palestinians, their land occupied by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war, view settlers as

a provocation. Baker's peace drive has been met by new settlement nearly every time he has visited the region over the last three months. He told a Congress subcommit-

tee nothing had made his job of

man partners for Israel more issues.

trying to find Arab and Palesti- have stalled over procedural

"Enemies of peace will only difficult than being greeted by the Levy said he expected Baker to

pression that Israel was the obsta-

cle to U.S. peace efforts, adding: "He knows it is not so." If Baker intended to blame Israel, however, "it is very serious," Levy said. He added Syria and other Arab states were to blame for rejecting direct negotiations with Israel. Egypt is the only Arab country to

Bush endorsed Baker's stance. The secretary said Arabs also had to act for peace talks to take place but he defended the Arab positions on many points. Washington's efforts to con-

vene a regional peace conference

sign a peace treaty with Israel.

treaty BEIRUT (R) - Parliament

Kuwait admits human rights abuses, orders crackdown on armed vigilantes

KUWAIT (R) - Kuwait's rulers have ordered a crackdown on armed vigilantes and pledged to stop human rights violations which have dismayed Western allies who restored them to power in the Gulf war.

The crown prince and prime minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, said gangs and some police were still abducting and torturing non-Kuwaitis three months after U.S.-led troops drove Iraq's occupation army from the emirate.

In one of the bluntest speeches ever made by a Guif Arab leader, he told the country that gun law must end and all illegal arms be surrendered.

His speech, broadcast late Sunday, followed allegations by the United States and human rights croups that non-Kuwaitis, espeally Palestinians, were being bducted by armed gangs and tricred, even killed, on suspie of collaboration with Iraq. Saud, admitting such and: They are taken

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Fig. 2.1. and said he would never

the Saudi roling family for

WASHINGTON (AP) - Israel.

which relied on U.S.-made Pat-

riot missiles to defend against

Iraqi Scuds in the Gulf war, is

about to win a big boost in U.S.

cash support for its own missile

-- likely to top \$200 million -- is

expected to be set while Defence

Secretary Dick Cheney visits

Israel for talks Thursday and Fri-

day on missile defence and other

cent of the \$158-million tab for

the first three years of work on

the Israeli system, overseen by

the U.S. army's strategic defence

A new 45-month contract for

the second phase of the Israeli

project is to be awarded this

summer to Israeli aircraft indus-

tries. The initial contract expires

The second stage is designed to

provide the scientific answer to

whether the system will work as

intended and whether the Israeli

government will take the next

The system, called the Arrow,

it's likely to be the world's first

disticated defence against

... ge ballistic missiles. The

is easinly intended for the

a thinding that of shooting

manes, olthough it has

miffed for a limited anti-

could be ready for fielding by

sten - full-scale production.

The United States paid 80 per

regional military matters.

command.

in July.

about 1995.

The exact amount of financing

defence project, officials say.

→ Ээтий м and subversion.

Kherman, condemned

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from their homes or the streets and taken to police stations where they are tortured.

"This is totally unacceptable and cannot continue." No one, not even his own son,

was above the law, the crown prince said, in apparent reference to widespread rumours that the sons of prominent Kuwaitis were linked to self-styled militias patrolling the streets.

"These elements must be arrested, questioned and brought to trial. We must not lose the international support we have onaccount of irresponsible acts by individuals," he said.

Western diplomats and opposition leaders welcomed the speech and said they hoped words would be put into action.

This kind of thing should have been done two or three months ago and needs to be followed up with action," opposition leader Abdullah Naibari said.

"It's nice talking, our problem here is to transform words into action. In the Arab World we are

is treatment of the Iranian pil-

grims.
The Iranians boycotted the half

aver since, demanding that a

Saudi quota Fraiting the number

of pilgrims to one person per

million population be scrapped,

nd the pilgrims be allowed to

lige temonstrations.
This issue strained ties between

he thic effective titans on the

liduslim world, until Iran rached

up hefty political points by re-

maining neutral in the war over

Tehran and Riyadh resumed

ges in March, in the aftermath of

the war and fran's newfound

moderate image, chiselled by

President Hashemi Rafsanjani af-

ter Khomeini died of cancer in

Rafsanjani, a so-called prag-

matist, is eager to temper

Khemeini's radicalism and

knuckle down to the task of

rebuilding the country, devas-

tated in the 1980-88 war with

The new contract will be worth

pay about 75 per cent of the total

even though the army says it will

have no use for the missile in its

The army is spending hundreds

of millions of dollars producing

its own family of new anti-missile

missiles and improving the capa-

States will be access to technical

data from Israeli testing, said

Col. Thomas J. Kunhart of the

army's joint theatre missile de-

fence office in Huntsville, Ala-

Army officials say the United

States isn't building the system for Israel, but they're quick to

note they do have the final say in

Israel "clearly understands that

we're calling the shots since we're

paying 80 per cent of the bill,"

said Lt.-Gen. Robert Hammond,

commander of the Strategic De-

fence Command, which does

most of the work on the Star

"If it were to come to a contest

The Israeli system would use

The missile, whose characteris-

between the two opposing points

of view, we would prevail," he

range ballistic missiles out of the

The payoff for the United

bilities of the Patriot system.

🔠 🗟. set to boost support

for new Israeli missile

own defenses.

most matters.

Wars project.

June 1989.

an programs leave for S. Arabia

used to nice speeches. But what interrogation of suspects before we want is action," he told Reu-trial.

Sheikh Saad ordered the Interior Ministry to clamp down on crime and accused some ministry employees of involvement.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said last month that Washington's continued support for Kuwart depended on it respecting human rights.

Western concern has focused on the plight of Palestinians suspected of working for and with Iraq during Baghdad's sevenmonth occupation of Kuwait. The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) supported Iraq throughout the Gulf crisis.

About 200 people, most of them Palestinians, are to stand trial on collaboration charges in a series of hearings that began this

The Kuwaiti government has sought to reassure its Gulf war allies that the trials are fair, despite concern in the West and among defence lawyers about the

Iran, whose contingent of pil-

grims is limited to 55,000 under

the Saudi quota system, was able

to claim the upper hand in resum-

ing ties by pressuring Riyadh to

allow 115,000 Iranians this year.

key over the issue. Sources have

said the quota remains in force.

but that the Iranians are allowed

to send more pilgrims only be-

cause they did not take part in the

The issue of staging demonstra-

While Rafsanjani has been

urging the pilgrims to behave, his

radical rivals have been trying to

Mohammad Mohammadi-

Reyshahri, a former prosecutor-

general and a leading hardliner,

told the first batch of departing

pilgrims Monday that "the hajj

should be performed in a manner

befitting the establishment of the

Guidance Mohammad Khatami,

another radical, and one of only a

Minister of Culture and Islamic

Islamic Republic of Iran.'

hajj for the past three years.

tions remains more touchy.

stir the pot.

The Saudis have remained low

Sheikh Saad also acknowledged Western concern about the large numbers of guns in the emirate, many illegally held in now-disbanbed militias and volunteer groups. He said they had machineguns, anti-tank weapons and anti-aircraft guns.

Martial law, imposed when Kuwait was freed, was supposed to end Sunday night. But there has been no official announcement and little discernible reduction in the number of armed men in view. Sheikh Saad is the martial law administrator.

Earlier this month the government gave residents four weeks to surrender illegal arms or face sanctions. They can be seen on every street corner in the hands of youths in combat fatigues.

Government buildings, some shops and many roads are patrolled by such men. Residents say it is often difficult to know whether they are regular army or volun-

few remaining hardliners in Raf-

sanjani's cabinet, also told the

pilgrims that "this year we will

perform the hair in the

framework and the teachings of

the great landar of the Islamic

Ahmad, Khomeini's only sur-

viving son and a leading hardlin-

or, chosen l. T. hanjuri to lead the pilgring abut passonally.

snubbed the producest by declin-

In what is considered a cosme-

tic show of support, many hard-

line groups from around the

port of Rafsaniani's policies

Saturday, after the president

lashed out at them for trying to

Muslim must perform at least

once in a lifetime, is considered

one of the five pillars of Islam.

around the world gather in the

Saudi holy cities every year for

Some 2 million Muslims from

The haij, which every able

undermine his plans.

country expressed their fuil sup-

revolution ("Lor chip."

the pi'gring

ing the offer.



Massoud Barzani

'Barzani still in Baghdad'

BAGHDAD (R) - The Iraqi government denied Monday that Kurdish rebel leader Massoud Barrani and his delegation had left Baghdad to consult his colleagues in the north on autonomy

talks with the government.

A ministry of information official said, "Barzani and his colleagues are still in Baghdad. The tally in continuing and they have mode progress.

Earsani, leader of the Kurdish Democratic Party, checked out of Baghdad hotel last Friday or and after almost two weeks of talks with the government on a new autonomy deal for Iraq's 3.5 million Kurds.

Kurdish sources said he gone north to Iraqi Kurdistan and would probably be back shortly

to resume the negotiations. The main obstacles to agreement are disagreement on the borders of a Kurdish autonomous region and arrangements to make Iraq a multiparty democracy.

The Kurds want to include the oil town of Kirkuk in the autonomous region, the government to exclude it. The Ministry of Information

spokesman said the delegation was in Baghdad throughout last week. He did not know where they were not staying.

Both sides have said they are

determined to reach an agreement sooner or later and diplomats based in Baghdad expect they will eventually settle their differences.

Barzani told Reuters last week he thought an agreement was possible within one or two weeks. The government is reluctant to

concede Kirkuk, a traditionally Kurdish city which now has a their immediate priority is ending United Nations sanctions rather than arranging elections. "I think they'll make a com-

promise because both sides want it, though for different reasons." one diplomat said Sunday.

The talks followed abortive uprisings by Kurds in the north and Shute Muslims in the south after the Gulf war. Up to two million Kurds fled towards Turkey and Iran after government troops crushed the rebellion.

Barzani, leader of the largest Kurdish guerrilla group, has led this month's second round of negotiations with the central gov-

The first round in April was led by Jalal Talabani, leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK). He and other leaders of the Iraqi Kurdistan Frontumbrella organisation have stayed behind in Kurdish-controlled areas of northern Iraq.

Their only contacts with Barzani's delegation have been by courier and radio telephone.

The first round of talks led to an agreement in principle to rerive a 1970 accord which recogrised the Kurds as a distinct nation and gave them extensive rights to run their own affairs.

inspection — U.N. agency stallation at Tuwaitha, near would work out how the nuclear Baghdad, and also inspected an

fully in allowing a team of international scientists to check its nuclear capabilities, officials of the United Nations International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

The team of 34 scientists was the first disarmament team to visit Iraq under the terms of the Gulf war ceasefire agreement which requires Baghdad to allow checks on nuclear facilities, the removal of chemical and longrange missiles, and a search for biological weapons. "The Iraqis could not have

been more forthcoming," an IAEA official said at the weekend. "Anything the team asked for was immediately accommodated."

Officials said the team, which returned to the IAEA's Vienns headquarters last week, examined lrag's main nuclear research in-

Unnamed installation near the capital which they asked to see at

Iraq cooperated in nuclear

short notice. At Tuwaitha, where both auclear reactors were destroyed by allied bombing, the team located most enriched uranium of a high enough quality to be used for weapons. But an unknown quantity, still in the core of the reactors, was apparently sub-

merged in water and rubble.
"The question is, is the fuel intact?" the official said. "And the answer seems to be yes, because there was no indication of radioactive release from the measurements they took on the

He added that the team had put the located nuclear material under tomper-proof 'seals to keep track of its movement. A future inspection team

material, some of which came from France, should be removed from the damaged reactors.

The team, with scientists from 19 different countries, also asked at short notice to visit a separate installation selected by the U.N. special commission supervis the disarmament stipulations of

the ceasefire agreement.

"Again it was a site that had been heavily bombarded and the most that our experts could do was go around taking photo-graphs and look at what was left of what had been a research facility and try and use their best judgment as to the kind of activity that had been conducted there, the official said.

Iraq agreed to the unconditional scrapping of its weapons of mass destruction under U.N. Security Council resolution 687

Arens seeks international conference on Mideast arms He said an international meet- Gulf war over Iraq, which had

TEL AVIV (R) - Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens called for the immediate convening of an international conference of weapons buyers and suppliers to curb a Middle East arms race.

"That is the major source of instability and if, God forbid, there's going to be another war that will be the reason," said Arens, whose country is the main military power in a region brist-

"It is essential that an international conference consisting of the countries that supply weaponry to the Middle East and the Middle East countries that acquire weaponry be called as soon as possible," he said in a speech, excerpts of which were carried on Israel Radio.

Arens, who shares his government's firm opposition to an international conference on Middle East peace, said the quantity of arms in the area were a threat both to Israel and to Arab na-

ing was needed "to deal with the Middle East arms race and to bring about a slowing down or hopefully a cessation of this influx of weaponry into the area."

Arens' comments came as U.S. President George Bush continued to ponder proposals to control the flood of arms, which could include efforts to curb nonconventional chemical and muclear weapons

The U.S. House of Representatives will soon be asked to approve a partial moratorium on major U.S. weapons sales in the region and to require Bush to seek a meeting of major arms suppliers. A congressional report showed

countries in the Middle East imported more than \$200 billion in military equipment over the last two decades. Arens made clear he thought

arms control must focus on supplies to Arab nations. The interest in arms control follows the U.S.-led victory in the

armour and artillery to form the world's fourth largest army.... However, any attempt to control arms in the Middle East must

purchased vast amounts of

overcome ingrained Arab-Israel distrust and Arab fears the plan could ensure Israeli supremacy. Israel, which depends on U.S. planes for the airforce that is the

backbone of its forces, has repeatedly used its influence in the U.S. Congress to attempt to block U.S. military sales to its Arab enemies. Seeking to maintain a qualitative edge, Israel has traditionally

sought cuts in conventional weapons because it is sharply outnumbered by the manpower, tanks, artillery and warplanes of the combined Arab armies. Israel is also less dependent on

imported arms than most Arab countries, with an extensive arms industry that includes battle tank production. Israel is itself a substantial arms exporter.

Somali government calls on north to end secession

terim government has condemned the proclamation of an independent state in northern Somalia and called for the move

to be reversed. We would like to make it clear to the Somali people and the world that the northern regions are part and parcel of the Somali republic," Mogadisht Radio said, quoting a statement by the council of ministers.

The Somali National Movement (SNM), which took control of northern Somalia after the ousting in January of former President Mohammad Siad Barre, public in the north earlier this month. "These decisions and moves

should be considered as against our national independence and the unity of the country," said Mogadishn Radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

> the self-styled republic was held south of the country. 10 days ago at Burag in northern Somalia. Its interim president SNM leader Abdurahman

NAIROBI (R) - Somalia's in- proclaimed the Somaiiland re- fore 1960, when British Somaliland joined with Italian Somalia. The interim government in Mogadishu was formed by the

United Somali Congress (USC) after its fighters forced Siad Barre out of the capital following a month-long battle for the city. The SNM has refused to recognise the USC government, which

is also fighting other former anti-A ceremony to hoist the flag of Siad Barre rebel factions in the Two of those groups, the Somali Salvation Democratic

Front and the Somali Patriotic Ahmed Ali, said the new state Movement, have rejected the restored boundaries existing be- secession of the north.

Japanese minesweepers join efforts in Gulf clean-up

DUBAI (R) -- Four Japanese minesweepers will start operations in the Gulf in the next few days to search for 400 mines still believed to be in the waterway, the commanding officer of the

force said Monday. "We are ready to operate anywhere (in the Gulf), but where exactly we will go will be decided after consultations with other countries which have minesweepers in the area," Captain Taosa

Ochia, commander of the Japan's overseas minesweeper force told a news conference. The mission, three months af-

ter the end of the Gulf war, is the first overseas duty by Japan's maritime self defence forces since World War II.

It took the six-ship flotilla, which include a command ship and a support vessel, a month to reach the Gulf from Japan, as they called at ports in five different countries on the way for replenishments.

Ochia said that although 800 mines have been found and destroyed by U.S. and allied navies, the remaining 400 are the most difficult ones to locate. Two U.S. warships were dam-

aged by mines during the Gulf war. Merchant shipping suffered no damage, a contrast with the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war in which at least a dozen ships fell victim to

Some mines from the Iran-Iraq war, laid by both sides, are still believed to be moored under the water and pose a threat to navigation in the Gulf, through which a fifth of the West's oil needs pas-

The Japanese commander declined to comment when asked if it was late for Japan to send its minesweepers months after the end of the war. "This is a government decision," he said.

Japan contributed financially to the war effort against Iraq but resisted pressure to send soldiers and equipment, saying its constitution bars foreign deployment of troops.

It was not clear how long it would take to find and destroy all the mines in the Gulf.

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the occasion.

Ben Ali

nearly \$300 million, U.S. officials infrared seeker that recognises say. The United States is likely to the heat generated by a ballistic missile as it re-enters the earth's atmosphere. Kunhart said.

The first Arrow flight test designed to intercept an unarmed ballistic missile is scheduled for this summer. The exact date is

bome in on its target with an

Before the Gulf war, Israel turned down chances to buy the Patriot system because it wanted to concentrate on building its own, more advanced defensive system. Batteries of U.S.-owned Pat-

riot missiles were rushed to Israel after Iraq began firing Scuds at the Jewish state in the opening hours of the war. The Patriot is generally credited with defeating Iraqi Presi-

dent Saddam Hussein's strategy of goading Israel into retaliating, which might have caused the Arab alliance to unravel. In the aftermath of the war, it's

becoming apparent the Patriot's value in Israel was more osychological than military. It didn't prevent Scuds from inflicting heavy property damage, but it removed a feeling of helplessness in Israel, which has no other means of ballistic missile defence.

The arrow would intercept an the Arrow missile to knock shortincoming ballistic missile at much higher altitudes, and from greater distances, than the Pat-

to resist fundamentalist pressure

dent Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali vowed Monday not to let Muslim fundamentalists sway his country from its drive towards democra-

"Not even the fundamentalist threat will make us change," he said in an interview with El Pais newspaper coinciding with the start of an official visit to Spain.

"Religious extremists are trying to take advantage of the freedom afforded by a democratic regime to boycott the same system," Ben Ali said. "This is one of the paradoxes of democracy. But we will not allow ourselves to be cornered by this paradox." Tunisian authorities have

arrested 300 members of the outlawed fundamentalist Nahdha Movement in recent weeks on suspicion of plotting to overthrow the president and set up an Islamic state.

Ben Ali said the plot "shows clearly the violent terrorist nature of the Nahdha Movement." He ruled out any possibility of it being legalised.

He was given an official welcome to Spain by King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia after being met on arrival by Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez

JORDAN TIMES DAILY BUIDE AND CALENDAR

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 18, Aquba 30. Humidity readings: Amman 33 per cent, Aquba 29 per useful telephone STEMBERS MIGHT DUTY

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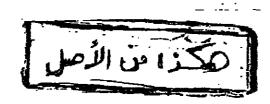
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Premier, officials discuss Zarqa Free Zone issues

ZARQA (Petra) — Problems related to investors at the Zarqa Free Zone and difficulties encountered in customs procedures there were discussed at a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Mudar Badran and attended by Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh and other senior officials, including Customs Department Director Mahdi Al Farhan and Free Zones Corporation Director Falah Al Oudah.

The prime minister was briefed on the various issues that impede the process of trade and investment at the free zone and called for solving these issues by cutting down on routine and reducing the lengthy procedures at the customs office to save time and encourage investments.

To help soive the problems, the prime minister ordered the formation of an ad hoc committee which is to submit recommendadays, before further action can be

The prime minister listened to investors' demands and issued directives related to them. Later, he toured the various installations and the free market area where incoming cars are

parked for re-export purposes.

He was told by the Free Zones Corporation director that the number of investors in the Zarqa Free Zone was on the increase. The director said later that the prime minister's visit reflected the government's keenness on solving issues that impede the development of the free zones in Jordan.

The finance minister later chaired a meeting to discuss means of implementing the prime minister's directives through a number of sub-committees.

Three hanged for murder

AMMAN (J.T.) Three criminals were hanged at Swaqa prison south of here, in the presence of representatives of the criminal court, the Public Security Department and the chief justice.

Two of the executed, identified only as M.A. and N.S., were convicted for committing murders, while the third, who also committed murder, had been convicted for other felonies and robberies before his final crime that led to his execution.

The third criminal, identified by the police as S.D., was found to have murdered the wife of his uncle in the process of stealing her jewels which he sold to local jewellers for money to pay for debts incurred in gambling.

According to court sources, the muderer had for some time worked as an employee for the Civil Services Consumer Corporation, but was fired after committing some thefts and acts of fraud. Finding himself unemployed, the criminal turned to gambling and lost large sums of money which he had obtained by selling gold pieces that belonged to his

According to the court, the man continued to gamble and lose more and more, a process which eventually led him to his uncle's home where he stole some iewellery and sold it in the local market for JD 380.

When trying to steal more jewellery, the criminal was confronted by his uncle's wife; he hit her hard on the head and killed her to silence her.

According to the court, the criminal stole jewellery and cash from his uncle's home which he eventually turned over to his friends at the gambling table. The court was told that his friends had turned him in after hearing about the crime.

This led to his arrest and his admission to committing the

Islamic academy's chief to review policy, curricula

AMMAN (Petra) — The Board of Directors of the Islamic Academy for Sciences will hold a meeting in the second half of June to review the academy's policies which aim at finding sound curricula for sciences and

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technology in the Islamic World. The academy's Director-General Anwar Al Bilbeisi said the meeting will discuss mechanisms for the academy's fifth conference which will be held next December to discuss ways of developing manpower working in scientific and technological fields in Muslim countries.

He said that more than 150 experts and scholars representing the bulk of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) member states and several regional and international organisations would take part in the confer-

The conference, Mr. Bilbeisi said, will continue discussion of topics tackled by participants in the fourth conference held in Antalia, Turkey, last year under the title "The Transfer of Technology for the Development of the Islamic World."

According to Mr. Bilbeisi, several international organisations have prepared studies on the issue of transferring technology to Islamic countries. He expressed hope that decisionmakers in Muslim countries would benefit from these studies.

The Islamic academy is an independent non-governmental organisation established by the OIC in Amman in 1986.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Izzeddin, publishers hold talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Information Ibrahim Izzeddin Monday met with a delegation representing the founding committee of the Jordanian Publishers' Federation and discussed with them issues of concern to publishers in Jordan. The delegation members briefed the minister on the aims of establishing the publishers' federation. Mr. Izzeddin pledged to remove obstacles in the way of the publishing industry in Jordan.

Italian travel agents 'happy' with visit

AMMAN (J.T) - The Italian travel agents group who visited Jordan recently have left Amman saying that they were satisfied with the trip to Jordan, "especially that it represents the first peace trip to the region after the touristic ban was held off the Middle East region." The group was invited by the Ministry of Tourism and Royal Jordanian, in cooperation with Viaggi Del Buon Consiglio Travel Agency in Milano with the aim of reviving the tourism industry in the Kingdom badly affected by the Gulf

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

Exhibition of etchings, lethographs and monoprints, by Ahmad Nawash and Yasser Duwcik at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (10 s.m — 5 p.m.)

FILM

Arabic film estitled "Rayya & Sukaina" at the Abdul Hammed Shoman Foundation - 7:00, p.m.



Prime Minister Mudar Badran Monday tours the pavilions of the first general exhibition organised by

the Vocational Training Corporation at Amman

Vocational training centres help combat unemployment — Badran

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime will last for four days. Minister Mudar Badran said "Vocational training Monday that the government had no alternative but to increase the number of vocational training centres to provide training in different trades, and at different levels, so that the country could have sufficient skilled workforce.

"I absolutely believe that vocational training is necessary not only during the summer school season, but at permanent centres of support to the VTC to enable it and in all areas," the prime minister said after opening the first general exhibition organised by the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) at Amman Munici-

The exhibition displays samples of products by 15 vocational

"Vocational training centres mark the starting point in combating the problem of unemployment in the Kingdom and we are in need of all expertise and skilled labour that can build up the country and promote its progress and development," said the

prime minister.

He said that the government would therefore provide all forms to expand its programmes and activities in all governorates.

The prime minister toured the various parts of the exhibition inspecting items on display. These included production by trainees involved in wood work, decoration, construction, electraining centres in Jordan and it tricity, hotel management, textile

and knitting, hair dressing, bakeries, metal moulding, central heating, sanitation, airconditioning and refrigeration, welding and metallurgy, auto mechanics and repair of car body.

The prime minister signed the exhibition register wishing the VTC further progress and expressing appreciation to those in charge of training programmes.

Dr. Ahmad Atwan, VTC director general, noted that since the establishment of the VTC in 1976 a total of 52,000 trainees had graduated from its centres. He said that VTC now runs 21 centres, eight of which are for girls, and the products of the trainees are being put up for sale to the

Princess Basma, Indonesian guest discuss cooperation in voluntary services

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal to promote the role of women in ter, Mrs. Adita Arifin Siregar, to discuss Indonesian-Jordanian cooperation in voluntary and charitable services and later guest on a tour of charitable

Mrs. Arifin Siregar, who heads organisations in her country, was briefed by the Princess on pro-jects conducted by the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF)

Highness Princess Basma Mon- socio-economic development in day met with the wife of the Jordan and to provide services to person to QAF's Board of Trust-

ees, accompanied her guest on a tees, accompanied her guest on tour of social and voluntary orgaaccompanied the distinguished nisations and vocational training centres for women. They also visited a centre in Madaba where women are involved in manufaca number of women voluntary turing rugs using local materials, and visited the National Ceramics Centre, operated by QAF, where they were briefed on its opera-

The Princess and her guest met with a group fo Jordanian women for a general discussion on the status and role of women in Jor-

Mrs. Arifin Siregar said she was impressed with what she had seen and expressed hope that voluntary associations in Indonesia and QAF would initiate cooperation and exchange expertise.

The Princess told the visitor she would like to look into the Indonesian women's activities for the purpose of benefiting from their experiments.

Indonesian trade minister visits Sahab Industrial City, holds talks with industrialists

AMMAN (Petra) — The visiting Indonesian Minister of Trade Arifin Siregar Monday visited the Sahab Industrial City, on the outskirts of Amman, and was briefed on the types of industries set up there and the facilities offered to investors by the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation

Accompanying the visiting minister on his tour was JIEC Director General Fayez Suheimat who said that incentives were being offered to attract foreign investment in industry and to encourage production and joint ventures which can produce for the local and foreign markets.

The tour took the Indonesian minister to a number of companies which export commodities to other countries, including a

Following the tour, the Indonesian minister met Jordanian businessmen at the Amman Chamber of Industry and discussed bilateral cooperation in in-

The chamber's President Khaldoun Abu Hassan expressed hope that the visit would open new avenues of close cooperation between Jordanian and Indonesian businessmen and industrial-

The Indonesian minister briefed the Jordanian businessmen on the types of products Indonesia can supply to the Jordanian markets and was informed by his audience about the products that can be sold in Indonesia.

The two sides agreed to hold further contacts in order to define the types of products which the two countries can exchange.

The Indonesian minister and his delegation earlier visited Al Hasa Phosphate Mines, in southern Jordan, and were briefed on production plans. Indonesia is one of the Asian countries that import Jordanian phosphate.

Taxi driver charged with robbery

AMMAN (J.T.) — A taxi driver was apprehended after stealing \$8,500 from a woman under threat with a switch knife, and the case has now been referred to the criminal court in Amman.

A report in the local press Monday said that the young woman had a girl friend who had learnt about the cash in the bag and told the taxi driver who later proved to be her accomplice in the robbery. The victim had confided in her

friend telling her that she carried \$11,000 in her bag and was heading for a bank in downtown Amman, according to the report. It said that the driver and the other girl accompanied their victim in AMMAN (Petra) - Chairman of the car which did not head towards the bank, but to an outlying area, near Muqablein, south east of here, where the driver pulled a switch knife threatening to kill the woman unless she handed him part of the cash. Islamic Affairs would handle the

After taking the money, the driver left his victim stranded on the road and fled, only to be later apprehended by the police who retrieved the stolen cash.

Ra'i Arabic daily reported Monday that the Amman First Instance Court had started examining the case of a woman expatriate had found the culprit and rewho came here from Kuwait in trieved the stolen money and her car which contained a great jewellery.

amount of cash. According to the report, the woman had parked the car in the garage under her brother's home with JD 1 million stashed inside, only to discover In another development, Al later that the money and some jewellery which was also left in the car had been stolen.

The report said that the police

Jordanian donations to help Iraqis

the Islamic Committee for Supporting Iraq Hamdi Al Tabaa said the committee imported 2,000 tonnes of flour and shipped them to Iraq last week. He said the Iraqi Ministry of Awqaf and

process of distributing flour to the needy in Iraq.

The committee purchased the whole quantity for \$500,000 which were donated to the committee by Jordanians at home and

Government grant to farmers will help boost production

ment announced Monday that it is giving a financial grant to the Jordanian Farmers Federation and helping provide fertilisers at nominal prices in a bid to give impetus to the agricultural sector and increase production.

The government will grant the Jordanian Farmers Federation (JFF) JD 500,000 to boost its operations and enable the federation to buy farming requirements which will, in turn, be offered to the farmers at reduced prices, Prime Minister Mudar Badran said in his announcement.

In cooperation with the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC), the government will be providing the federation with fertilisers which would later be distributed to farmers at special low prices in a bid to encourage them to increase the output, said the prime minister at a meeting in his office with a IFF team led by its Chairman Talal Al Ghazzawi.

Mr. Badran said that the government was viewing with concern all problems encountered by the Jordanian farmers, realised the need for reducing the cost of farming requirements and would try to solve the problems.

Mr. Badran told the team that there was need for activating the federation's activities through constant contacts with the farmers and through extensive agricultural extension services.

The prime minister said that the concerned government departments, including the Ministry of Agriculture and its affiliated

ready to provide expertise and guidance to all farmers in Jordan. The prime minister said that the JFF should not be totally

reliant on the government, but should be energenic and selfsupportive and always responding to the needs of the farmers. "For this to happen, the farmers should have confidence in their federation, which, in turn, must have an active and meaning-

ful role in the agricultural production process," he said. "The government gives due care to the farmers who are closer to the land than other citizens in Jordan and constitute a majority among other trades and professions, but who have lately faced hard times," the prime minister pointed out.

Farmers of the Jordan Valley region claim they sustained JD 60 million in losses caused by damages to their crops resulting from polluted water in the King Talal Dam. The government has set up a committee to investigate the cause of the damages which affected large areas of farmlands.

In the past winter a rain-storm caused heavy damage to farmlands in the southern governorates of Tafileh, Karak and Maan, and the government allocated JD 1 million to cover the cost of repair to bridges, agricultural roads, culverts and other facilities.

At the meeting with the JFF team, the prime minister said that keenness on developing the Kingdom's agricultural wealth was a their sufferings.

AMMAN (J.T.) - The govern-research institutions, will be national duty for every citizen, he said that "it is time for Jordan to be able to provide food to others not merely attaining food self-

sufficiency."
Mr. Badran heard the views of the federation as outlined by Mr. Ghazzawi who referred to the soaring prices of agricultural in-

"The JFF, which now groups 6,000 members, feels that it is incapable of performing its duty due to the accumulating difficulties and problems, especially the financial difficulties and the poor return from agricultural projects," Mr. Ghazzawi noted.

Mr. Ghazzawi demanded that the government speed up the passage of a new law endorsing the newly formed federation so that it can encompass many other farmers, in various regions of the country, and not only those in the Jordan Valley. The present federation law was passed in 1974, and in the view of Mr. Ghazzawi, it can by no means cater to the needs of present-day farming.

Following the meeting with the prime minister, Mr. Ghazzawi said in a statement that the prime minister had expressed his full understanding of the farmer's difficulties and sufferings and was prompt in responding to their demands.

Mr. Ghazzawi said that the JD 500,000 promised by the government to the federation would contribute most positively towards helping the farmers promote their production and alleviate

Jordan, Germany discuss cooperation in forestry

AMMAN (J.T.) — A workshop on operational planning and monitoring has been inaugurated by the Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Alawneh May 26, at the Department of Afforestation and Forests. The workshop, which is organised by the Forestry Department and the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) will last from May 26 till May 28,

This workshop marks the third phase of technical cooperation between Jordan and the Federal Republic of Germany in the field of forestry. The first phase of

cooperation started in 1974 with the emphasis on forestation and phase dealt with the protection tree and centre.

and maintenance of forestation areas and the natural forests. As a logical step, the third phase of the Jordanian-German cooperation deals with the managerial strengthening of the forestry de-partment which includes the improvement of its planning capacinursery management. To assure ties, management of forestry rethe adequate development of the sources, education and training resources established, the second - and the establishment of a forest



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By Rami G. Khouri

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Wrong end of justice

THE EXECUTION Sunday of three Jordanians convicted of first degree murder brings to the fore the entire subject of capital punishment and the manner it has been administered in the country. To begin with, Jordan is treaty obligated to phase out capital punishment under the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). The human rights culture that has been cultivated and nurtured by the U.N. system during the past decades calls on all states which still invoke such a punishment to abolish it, as soon as possible, since it is too inhuman, cruel and prone to irreversible error. ICCPR specifically stipulates that its provisions shall not be invoked to delay or prevent the abolition of capital punishment by any state party to the

But this is not the whole issue as far as Jordan is concerned. Even more cruel and inhuman is the way the capital punishment in the country is being carried out. A clear and prime example is the way the so-called honour crimes are being treated in the country's courts of law. When a young and hot blooded man kills his sister or niece or daughter after suspecting her of "the wrong" sexual behaviour, the courts of the country tend to be unduly lenient towards him. In the process the murdered women or girls are systematically denied protection of the law including an opportunity to rebut the accusations being arbitrarily levelled against them. As a result, many innocent females go on being murdered in Jordan under the guise or pretext of honour protection. In almost all such situations, the murderer is the prosecutor, the judge and the executioner, all in one. This carnage has got to stop lest the country drifts back to the Jahiliyah era when innocent female infants were killed upon birth for fear that their "honour" may one day be tarnished. Islam, to be sure, changed all that and gave the word "honour" a more enlightened meaning that has yet to dawn on even some of our contemporaries.

In his historic speech on the occasion of the graduation of a new class of senior army officers from the Royal War College last Wednesday, His Majesty King Hussein warned against the return to the Jahiliyah days, both literally and figuratively speaking. Surely the King was thinking of more than inter-Arab conflicts and wars when he cautioned against the drift to the pre-Islamic days. He must have had in mind the broader connotations of the expression.

In our midst in Jordan there are some manifestations of the reversion to the era of ignorance and darkness, and the murder of innocent women and girls in the name of family honour is surely one of them. No one would suggest that promiscuity or illicit sexual behaviour should be encouraged or promoted. On the contrary, the Kingdom prides itself on the faithful adherence to religion and tradition in such matters. What cannot be tolerated or promoted, however, is double standards in the application of criminal justice in the country. In modern states such as Jordan, only the state may prosecute the accused and punish the guilty after due process of the law has been administered by a fair and independent judiciary. Anything short of that would put the country squarely in the days of Jahiliyah. When the state remains lenient towards those who take the law into their own hand, it would become an accomplice in the restoration of the days of the darkness amongst us.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Monday dwelt on the theme in His Majesty King Hussein's address to the Royal War College in which he discussed the new world order and the need for the Arabs to deal with ths new order with open minds and objectivity. The paper echoed the King's call for concerted efforts and close cooperation on the part of the Arab countries as the only means for ending the weakness of the Arab World and absorbing the new dimensions of the world order. The paper noted that the Gulf crisis had caused a deep breach in Arab ranks and disrupted solidarity among the Arab states and said that keenness on retaining Arab existence and protecting national interest lies in cohesion and solidarity, otherwise the whole Arab World will be exposed to dismemberment. Unless the Arabs take speedy moves to heal the wounds caused by the crisis, they can by no means find their status among the world community of nations, said the paper. The spirit of the new world order, the paper continued, calls for respecting the interests of other countries and requires diligent work and concerted efforts to preserve some kind of uniformity among the Arab states, the paper added. The paper expressed the view that the Arabs can by no means win the respect of the world unless they are united and can prove their ability to play a meaningful role in human civilisation.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily criticised the government for endorsing policies adopted by the Ministries of Social Development and Education with regard to dealings with women. A reception hosted by the prime minister on Independence Day anniversary was attended by two or three women only among a multitude of men, something which was totally contrary to previous years' practices, says Sultan Al Hattab in his column. We had thought that the policy adopted by the Ministries of Social Development and Education were isolated from those adopted by the government, but we were proved wrong when we saw no women at this important reception, says the writer. It should be noted that women as well as men are responsible for economic and social development in the country; and excluding women from social or economic events reflects backward tendency, says the writer. He notes that Jordan is a society for men and women, and not men alone, and each member of the community has equa rights like those of all others as supported by the constitution and the national charter. The writer says that Jordan now stands at a crossroads watching certain groups tampering with the rights of women who should be considered as full partners in the socio-economic development process.

The View From Fourth Circle

A lesson in Middle East history and humanity

THREE months after the end of the Gulf war, the situation in the Middl East is quickly reasserting itself, forcing all concerned parties to deal with the realities of the region, rather than simply to wave ribbons and flags in the fantasy world of Washington and London. When the cash register coalition insisted on liberating Kuwait by military force, instead of allowing inter-Arab diplomacy to run its course, the world was lectured about principles and morality. Today, reflecting the logic of militarism and the colonial habits of British and American officialdom, Kuwait is a very different place than that which we were told about by high-priced American public relations agencies. The fantasy has not come

true. The frog remains a frog, and the prince is not yet born. In Kuwait today, the people's hearts are full of anger, and their hands are full of guns. The courts are full of embarrassing show trials. The leadership is full of fear and anxiety, terrified about the prospect of sharing power with its people. And the air bases and army camps of Kuwait are full of American soldiers. The fantasy land has been turned into a grotesque nightmare.

The much-touted security arrangement which the Syrian and Egyptians would work out with the Gulf states — presumably with considerable amounts of cash changing hands — appears unlikely to materialise. Egypt seems more and more marginalised as a political force in the Middle East, strategically and militarily neutralised by its separate peace with Israel and politically lobotomised by its dependence on the United States. Its leaders wander around Europe asking to have their debts forgiven. In time, they will have to wander among their own people, asking for forgiveness for having allowed Egypt to sink into its pit of mismanagement and dependency.

Jordan, which was ostracised when the region was defined by war, is once again a central player when the talk turns to peace. The presidents of Egypt and the United States get in touch with the Jordanian leadership. The PLO is also back at centre-stage, naming the negotiators and calling the tune in the talks with

Syria and the PLO show important signs of reconciliation, which will seriously trouble those in Israel, the West and the Gulf who bet on the PLO's losing out after the war. The Syrian-PLO feud has gone on for nearly a decade, and neither side has been able to subdue the other. The unspoken is now spoken: it is time to stop the political silliness, and to devise policies that reflect the grassroots support of the Palestinian and Syrian people, and of all other nationalist Arab forces throughout the region.

As attempts continue to start Arab-Israeli peace negotiations, greater pressures will be exerted on Syria and other Arabs to make further concessions to Israel, at a time when Israel's position remains defiantly intransigent - to the point where the mild-mannered James Baker went so far as to publicly criticise Israel during his meetings with the American Congress. The reality of our world is very different from the fantasy that was generated during the Gulf crisis and war, when people stopped using their heads and put their faith instead in the power of bombs and money. They are finding out now that bombs and money are false and retributive gods that only lead you to a fake paradise of ghosts and devils, where money does not matter and bombs have

During the Gulf crisis, the mercantile imperative of the cash register coalition prevailed for a moment. We were not surprised to see the British - those old and tired imperial poodles panting and pawing at the doorstep of the American dog food empire -

goading on the Americans to fight. But it was sad to see otherwise gentle and thoughtful people such as Australians, Canadians and Italians get caught up in the madness, and send forces to confront Iraq. It was equally strange to see Egypt, Syria and Morocco line up with the Americans. Washington thought it had put together a true coalition, in which political partners embraced one another in a show of deep and eternal love and companionship. But, we see today that this was not a long-term love affair; it was just an old-fashioned square dance, in which the fast moving partners touched one another momentarily, grasped hands, twirled once or twice in a mutually beneficial but very brief movement that allowed them to stay on their feet, and then separated and went

their separate ways, perhaps never to touch again.

All that is almost over now, though strong emotions still prevail. On the American side, we are struck by the dangerous combination of political naivete and military power. Historically speaking, the American leadership moves around the ancient lands of the Middle East like a child in a museum - not there of its own volition, hoping to finish and go home, and somehow awed but always slightly perplexed. We also still feel deep contempt for Great Britain's ability to sustain a Middle Eastern track record of duplicity and shameless, exploitative commercialism under the thin guise of diplomacy for nearly the entire 20th century - "jolly good show, old chap, give those ragheads another cup of tea while we prepare to sell them some more gold-plated falcons that glow in the dark."

All of the frenzy which entered the region with the half a million foreign forces is slowly disappearing, returning home with them. We have only pockets of weirdness left, in places like Zakho and Dahuk, places which we had always known of, but which were very far from Arkansas. When the Americans and their European posse finally leave, the full emotional and political forces which truly define the Middle East will make themselves felt once again. This is what is already happening vis-a-vis Arab-Israeli peace efforts.

The Arab side has made considerable concessions and shown maximum flexibility in responding to the American-Soviet peace initiative, but the sacred central principle remains that of negotiating land-for-peace on the basis of international legitimacy, meaning U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. The Americans assume that the Arabs will make further concessions - and, if the last nine months have been anything to go by, whatever the Americans say, think or do will be dutifully repeated in London within, oh, 20 to 30 minutes at most. Speed is one of the characteristics of post-imperial obsequiousness

But Arab flexibility should not be mistaken for submission. The reality is that we have fought against western imperial subjugation and manipulation for nearly a century, and we are not about to stop now simply because for a few months our skies were raining down with American bombs, Arab oil money and British trade fairs. The grassroots sentiments of the Arab people have started to reassert themselves, and above all they call for dignity and justice. The root denial of Arab dignity and justice this century has been in Palestine - not surprisingly, initially fostered by the British, and then perpetuated and financed by the United States

Those in the West who believe that the force of their guns can bring about any political development they wish in this region will soon find out the stubborn strength of ancient Arab communities striving for dignity and justice. The West was very moved — or

mabye just badly shamed and embarrassed - by the plight of the Kurds. The fact is, the Kurds are only one of many communication around the Middle East who seek to formulate workable arrangements of national identity and viability. Guns and money, whether from the West or from within our region, can only momentarily suppress the demands of the people of the region for national stability, political identity and human rights. In the long run, the quest for justice and dignity will triumph, because it is stronger than imperial will — as the the Americans themselves proved just over 200 years ago, in their revolutionary war against the army of the king of England.

The Syrian, Egyptian and Moroccan governments are finding out that if political policy in this region cuts against the grain of grassroots sentiment for very long, it will be challenged by the will of the Arab people. The will of the people is not for convoluted and mercantile coalitions with the imperial lords of the West, but rather is for a life of equity, identity, honour and peace. That can be achieved by resolving the key problems facing our region—problems which existed before the Gulf crisis, and which have only been exacerbated by it. There are five main ones to be

1) The national rights of the Palestinians, resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict in a manner which satisfies the legitimate rights of all parties, and implementing all United Nations resolutions in the area with equal vigour and force, according to a single standard of morality and law.

2) The severe economic disparities within the Arab World. where per capita income ranges from lows of under \$600 in Somalia, Mauritania, Yemen and Sudan, to a high of \$16,000 in Qatar and the UAE.

3) The lack of democracy, human rights and political pluralism in most Arab countries, which prevents policy-formulation based on the real will of the people, and allows autocratic rulers and non-accountable power elites to pursue whimsical, wasteful and regressive policies.

4) The lack of inter-Arab economic and social integration and complementarities, and the inability of people to give life and expression to their sentiment of belonging to a broader Arab

5) The tradition of Western powers interfering in internal Arab affairs, and maintaining the Arab World in a state of fragmentation, tension and dependence. If these five issues could be addressed and resolved in a

meaningful manner, the people of the Middle East and the Arab World would finally have an opportunity to live in justice, peace and stability. If the West only chooses to help us deal with one or two issues, and leaves the other untouched, the region will not look forward to stability, but rather to continued turnoil and

As the intensity of Arab sentiments on these matters now starts to make itself felt, the West will get a quick refresher course in Middle Eastern politics, history and humanity — a landscape in which emperors come and go, but human identity remains, and the quest for dignity and national integrity only grows stronger with every generation. It's happening all around us this week. Watch it and enjoy it, and above all learn from it, because it, and not American and British troops handing out cookies in Zakho, is the human reality of the Middle East.

Gulf Arabs find themselves as regional military force

By Eric Hall Reuter

RIYADH - Gulf Arabs are gradually waking up to the idea that the destruction of Iraqi military power may have left them with the most modern, and arguably most effective.
military machine in the Gulf

The growing perception that Saudi Arabia and its five oilproducing allies are a regional military force rather than a vulnerable focus of western strategic and economic fears is changing past assumptions about post-war Gulf security, senior military officials and

analysts say. "The Gulf Arabs can easily defend themselves now in a conventional sense. Militarily, their tail is up after the baptism of fire against Iraq," said a western defence official visit-

ing Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia alone, with almost 200 sophisticated western combat aircraft and western-trained pilots, now possesses the biggest combattested air force in the region.

They flew more than their fair share of sorties during the war. They proved themselves and their air force. Their confidence is very high," said a military analyst.

As an alliance the six-Gulf Cooperation Council states of audi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, and Qatar have more than 400 aircraft, almost 1.000 main battle tanks, and after the Gulf war possibly more than 250,000 trained troops, the analysts said.

NEWS ANALYSIS

They are also the only countries in the region that have the money and the political accessto the West to easily acquire more western arms and tech-

To all intents and purposes, the Iraqi army after its Gulf war defeat can be discounted as a regional power. Iran has 600.000 men under arms, 500 tanks, and possibly over 200 aircraft, if it includes up to 100 Iraqi military planes which Western intelligence said flew there during the war in mysterious circumstances, and were never given back.

But Iran suffers serious spares shortages and flying most of its planes effectively is beyond its capabilities," said a Yemen, the only non-GCC

country on the Arabian peninsula, has a large but oldfashioned army with outdated Soviet equipment, save for some U.S. tanks. Its economy is largely dependent on exports and migrant labour to the rich GCC states.

The result is an increasing realisation in GCC capitals, with the possible exception of Kuwait, that there is no need for foreign ground forces, Arab or western, to remain on GCC soil, the sources said.

This is a change from just after the U.S.-led coalition's defeat of Iraq in occupied Kuwait, when the GCC seemed to think it would need significant outside help.

In December, the GCC said

it was talking to Iran about a joint security framework. This was a major reversal of past attitudes of caution and mistrust revolutionary Iran.

After the war, Riyadh mended a four-year break in diplomatic ties with Tehran, but in the past two months talk of joint security with Iran around the GCC has tailed off.

In March, just after the war, the GCC singed a joint dec-laration with Gulf war allies Syria and Egypt. The important paragraph read that the signatories: "Consider that the presence of the Egyptian and Syrian forces in the territory of the ... Arab countries in the Gulf region ... represents a nucleus for an Arab peace force which is ... to guarantee the security and safety of the Arab countries in the Gulf

region. But Egypt recalled all its GCC-based forces this month and diplomats said the agreement appeared to be compromised.

Egypt and Syria undoubtedly expected to have substantial troops on the Ara-

Expectations of future cooperation with western forces have also calmed considerably in the past few weeks.

At the beginning of May, U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney discussed joint exercises and training with GCC forces, and building up military stockpiles in the Gulf to allow U.S. forces to return quickly, if

bian peninsula. But the Saudis

may never have thought there

would be a permanent ground

presence, and certainly not in

Saudi Arabia," said a senior

western diplomat.

But military officials said there was no rush, "In some GCC states it will be new cooperation, but in others only a change in the degree of cooperation we had before," said

one official However, GCC states would estern navies to tei Both Washington and London have said they would retain their long-term navy patrols. These include only a few surface warships apiece but are capable of outmatching any regional navy.

LETTERS

How about the Arabs?

To the Editor:

GOD works in mysterious ways.

And so, it seems, does the mind of U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. Having recovered at last from the paralysing attack of deep sadness during Gulf War II, the Peruvian is back in the peace-business. And while other members of the elite club of nations have slowly come to denounce more or less loudly though the illegitimate Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab territories as "obstacles to peace," the U.N.-chief has traced quite a different one of these; the 16-year-old U.N. resolution equating Zionism to racism.

His contemplation about rescinding this resolution is very interesting because it goes quite well with the "new world order" "new thinking" towards the Middle East. Since the question whether Zionism is or is not racism has been intensively discussed and answered by the international community and since Zionism did not change its claims or practices, the resolution is still valid. So why recall it or even reverse it? To create a better feeling in Israel towards the U.N.? Well, this really is new thinking. Because quite recently we heard that the duty of the international body was to secure world peace by strictly implementing international legitimacy "with all necessary means" and "no appeasement." And it worked, it really did, we saw it happen for 43 bloody days and nights. But then, those who got the implementing and the international legitimacy with not just "all necessary means" but rather nearly all available means and most certainly without any "appeasement" were just Arabs. The people of Israel and especially the Zionists are much more delicate and sensible people who need and deserve a rather different approach? Still, what happens for example if Israel is not satisfied with the dumping of that resolution and does not feel any better towards the U.N. after all? Are there other resolutions to be crashed and trashed like 338 or 242, or maybe even 181 (rescind the partition — and donate all of Palestine).

Well, this surely would solve the Palestinian question once and for all. But it would not bring about peace and stability in the region. And knowing that Eretz Israel — the real thing I mean, the one promised not quite by God but by Theodor Herz! — has to be much more than just Palestine, the Arab-Israeli dispute would remain unsolved too. So, where would be the limits of the new thinking and the appeasement approach?

I really wonder what the sensitive man from Peru has in store for the Arabs except suffering and pain. Did it ever occur to him that maybe the Arabs too would like to like the United Nations and feel secure from and through the Security Council?

> Elinor Kaiser-Moha P.O. Box 540 383 Abe Nuseir - Amman

Cairo discovers alliance failed to secure home front

By Rosemary Hollis

OPTIMISM has given way to scepticism and frustration in Egypt, after early hopes that the war for Kuwait had created the opportunity to build a new order in the Middle East — with financial rewards and a central political role for Egypt.

Granted, Cairo is once more the headquarters of the Arab League, which unanimously elected the Egyptian foreign minister, Esmat Abdul Meguid, as its new secretary-general. Shortly before that, the U.S. secretary of state, James Baker, and the Soviet foreign minister, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, converged on the capital to coordinate their efforts to launch an

Arab-Israeli peace conference. But the League meeting witnessed angry exchanges between the Kuwaiti and Iraqi delegates, and the combined efforts of Mr. Baker and Mr. Bessmertnykh

have so far been in vain. The presence in Cairo of the International Monetary Fund's managing director, Michel Camdessus, to press for Egyptian economic reforms, serves as a reminder that the country must reduce its foreign debts and rising unemployment if it is to prosper. Egypt's ability to take a lead in

shaping regional relations will depend on whether it can surmount its economic problems. Its prospects hinge partly on winning foreign assistance, to cushion the effects of the IMF austerity measures on its poorest and most vulnerable citizens.

The Cairo government is arguing that it is in the political interests of both Western and Arab governments to see Egypt remain stable and influential. Faced with the prospect of three years or more of austerity, Egyptians are disappointed that they did not receive more financial rewards for contributing forces to the Gulf coalition.

Perhaps, they admit, they expected too much. Nonetheless, they speak bitterly of having been denied the chance to bid for substantive contracts to rebuild Kuwait. They argue that while Syria received cash for its troop contribution, Egypt won cancellation of debts that its creditors did not expect to

see repaid anyway. Egyptians also believe that Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are more interested in talking to the United States about security guarantees, than in pursuing Egypt's undertaking to keep its 35,000 or so ground forces in the

Along with some 20,000 Syrian troops, they would have augmented the military capability of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).
The Damascus Declaration, signed by the GCC states, Egypt

and Syria on March 6, envisaged not only the establishment of this new security structure, but also cooperation on economic development between the oil-rich Gulf states and their poorer but more populous and militarily strong Arab coalition partners.

President Hosni Mubarak announced on May 8 that Egyptian forces in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia were being withdrawn. The underlying message was that if Gulf governments wanted Egyptian support, they would have to ask for it and be prepared to pay for it.

It cames as a surprise when

The exact purpose of the security structure envisaged in the Damascus Declaration remains unclear. Is it supposed to protect the Guif states, or the Guif ruiers? Is it to provide for the defence of the Gulf region, in which case Iraq and Iran could expect to play a role?

Is it intended to bring security to the whole Middle East, which would bring the Arab-Israeli con-

The apparent reluctance of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia to forge ahead with the plan and address these issues has led Egyptian commentators to conclude that the Gulf rulers are retreating into relative isolation under the shield of U.S. protection.

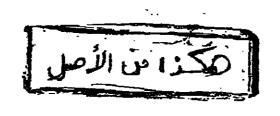
flict within its remit?

If Egypt is expected to condone this, and even provide a cover for American involvement, Cairo would want economic inducements at the very least.

President Mubarak's announcement of the troop withdrawal may thus have been a bargaining tactic. To reinforce the point, the Egyptian secretaryneral of the Arab Cooperation Council — which aligned Egypt with Iraq, Jordan and Yemen before the Gulf crisis - recently signalled that the pact could spring back to life.

Even if only a ploy, this move, together with Cairo's reaction to the heightened U.S. presence in the region, indicate that the new Middle East order may be a far cry from the one Egypt had in

Dr. Rosemary Hollis is a Research Fellow at the Royal United Services Institute - The article is reprinted from the



Addis Ababa braces for rebels

(Continued from page 1)

 told reporters. Rebel forces were closing in on Addis Ababa late on Monday after a rout of government troops since President Mengistu Haile Mariam fled to exile in Zim-

conceding defeat in the longest running civil war in Africa. Volleys of gunfire resounded around the presidential palace on Monday.

babwe last Tuesday, effectively

Meanwhile, the Ethiopian rebels ordered their fighters into the capital Addis Ababa on Monday after the government effectively surrendered to them by ordering its forces to cease fire. The fighters of EPRDF who surround the city were expected

to arrive within hours. Diplomatic sources said they had heard from the EPRDF that the rebels' commanders had

ordered their forces in. First word of the ceasefire came from the U.S. government, mediator in the war, which also called on the rebels to restore order in Addis Ababa. Until Monday, the United States had asked the rebest to refrain from entering the capital in order not to threaten peace talks.

The ceasefire was announced in a national radio broadcast by the interim government headed by Gebre-Kidan, who took over Mariam resigned and fled Tues-

city's lights went out. government to instruct its troops

ty, they'll come in with flags flying and bugles blowing. If there is no treaty, they'll still come in, but with their guns

Rebels have encircled the

The rebels had captured the country's main military air base and trained long-range artillery on the international airport Mon-

Pan-Arabists discuss nation's ills

(Continued from page 1)

ments, the paper asserted, were not compatible with the actual development needs of the Arab World.

The paper also discussed the ties between Arab economies and the international economy, and pointed out the changes taking place in world politics that would collapse of Eastern Europe, the unity of the two Germany's and people." the expected unity of Europe in

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In the second session a number of participants spoke of the political consequences of the Gulf war, and their long-term effects on the region.

Lower House of Parliament deputy Hussein Miali said in his speech that the Arab World should come to terms with the defeat of Iraq. "Its like our (the Arab) defeat in 1967 multiplied by ten," he said. Mr. Mjali said that the real enemy was the United States and called for uniting the Arab ranks by burying the past. He proposed the formation of a delegation to try and patch up differences especially between Iraq and Syria in order to face up to "the Zionist expansionist

Another speaker, Mr. Ali Kha-lifeh from Qatar warned against the "American threat" following the end of the Gulf war. He said the U.S. policies aim at controlling Arab resources, mainly oil, and "preventing Arabs from using those resources to advance their causes."

Mr. Khalifeh said that Arabs should look to the future and prevent any kind of fragmentation or disintegration of any Arab country. Fragmentation "is the policy that only serves the purpose of the enemy," he said. Mr. Khalifeh expressed con-

cern over limiting Arab labour force in the Gulf to mainly Egyptian labourers. The Egyptian labour force is not capable of handling the burden and would in Addis Ababa a few hours later after President Mengistu Haile A few hours after the U.S.

announcement, artillery and automatic weapons fire could be heard crackling on the distant outskirts of Addis Ababa and the It apparently remained for the

to lay down their arms and permit the insurgents to enter the city "This is the waiting day," a Western diplomat said earlier Monday. "If there's a peace trea-

capital and control most strategic

\$1 billion annually. These invest- require the intervention of foreign elements," he said.

The call for democracy in the region was echoed by more than one speaker.

Dr. Hisham Sharabi, a political science professor at Georgetown University in Washington said that the Arab World was in need of democratisation "in order to effect these kinds of ties are the rid the people of despotic regimes, who control the fate of the

Mr. Wamid Nathmi, an Iraqi, said that his country's leadership had committed many mistakes, mainly its shunning of democracy, its failure to ensure national unity and its aggressive posture towards Kuwait.

He added, however, that other regimes had committed worse acts by cooperating with Western elements in the destruction of Iran's infrastructure and mere existence. "Some Arab regimes fought Iraq under the American flag," he said. "I refuse to forgive those governments and to clear them of crimes against the Iraqi people." He said.

Mr. Nathmi expressed surprise at Arab regimes' response to the numerous United Nations resolutions passed against Iraq. "Why are the Arab regimes silent on the U.N. resolutions against Iraq?" he asked. "Ninety per cent of the Iraqi people are suffering from hunger and diseases as a result of the embargo against Iraq, yet Arab regimes are silent, and their silence is strange and suspicious," he said.

One more item on Monday's agenda was human rights in the Arab World. The participants agreed that 1990 has witnessed the most human rights violations against Arabs especially Palestinians and Iraqis. They discussed the continuous practices of the Israeli occupation forces against Palestinians in the occupied territories, and the results of the embargo enforced on Iraq since August and its effects on Iraqi people.

A Western diplomat who spoke on condition of anonymity said the international airport was under government control, but the rebels could go in at anytime. The airport is five miles east of the capital.

Since the resignation and flight into exile last Tuesday of President Mariam, the rebels have heeded U.S. requests that they not try to seize the capital until the peace talks are completed.

Cohen, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, told reporters in London Monday: "In order to reduce uncertainties and eliminate tensions in the city, and after consulting with all of the parties, the U.S. government is recommending that the forces of the EPRDF enter the city as soon as possible to help stabilise the situation."

The announcement eased fears the rebels would have to fight their way into the city.

There are concerns that any outbreak of street fighting in the capital could seriously jeopardise already strained efforts by Western relief agencies to help the more than 5 million Ethiopians threatened with famine.

No comment was immediately available from the Ethiopian Peoole's Revolutionary Democratic Front, the largest of three rebel movements engaged in the talks.

On Monday, heavy fighting was reported at the presidential palace, apparently between two groups of government soldiers the elite guard of the former president and regular troops. The troops were armed with tanks and automatic weapons.

Sources, including some Western diplomats, said there had been reports that the elite guard had been looting the presidential

The reports could not be confirmed and the sources declined to be identified, but there was no indication rebels were involved in the firefighting. Cohen's statement at the Lon-

don talks urging the rebels to enter the capital was nearly drowned at times by shouts of "peace, peace," from Ethiopian exiles demonstrating outside the London hotel where the talks were being held.

The exiles maintained that a transitional government dominated by the rebels would be just as dictatorial as Mengistu's gov-

Aides said Cohen expected to get the rebels and the government representatives face to face on Tuesday to seek a settlement that would bring peace to the African nation, long plagued by famine and civil strife.

Rebels are demanding a transitional administrator to replace Ethiopia's government and a re-ferendum among Eritreans on independence for their northern province.

The Ethiopian People's Re-volutinary Democratic Front is an umbrella movement dominated by Tigrean insurgents. It is being led at the London talks by its chairman, Meles Zenawi.

The Eritrean People's Liberation Front delegation is led by Secretary-General Issayas Afe-worki. It has been fighting since 1961 for independence.

The Oromo Liberation Front fights in the southwest of the

Iraq was new kind of war—biological warfare

A DEBATE is under way within the U.S. left over the nature and extent of the damage that western forces inflicted on Iraq, and on Baghdad in particular, during the Gulf war. In the May 6 issue of The Nation, Erika Munk, who visited Baghdad for four days in late March, claims that the U.S.led bombing of the capital re-sulted in the "lowest number of civilian deaths from the bombing of a major city in the history of modern warfare." Dr. Louise Cainkar, executive director of the Chicago-based Palestine Human Rights Information Centre, takes strong exception to Munk's arti-cle. From March 23 to April 15 Cainkar travelled throughout the country to gain first-hand information and document how the aftermath of the war is affecting civilians in the area. Cainkar contends that Munk's piece contains errors of both fact and interpretation, and that it does not provide the reader with much information. On May 11 the National Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in the Middle East held a "Public Hearing on U.S. War Crimes" to detail the effects of the war. The keynote speaker was former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, who visited Iraq in early February to document the effects of the bombing. Upon his return, Clark wrote an article for The Nation describing the destruction. His eyewitness testimony was also featured in the Feb. 27 issue of the

Chicago-based journalist. THE first thing I saw after crossing the border was no less than 40 bombed-out cars, trucks and buses no the side of the road all blown up and strafed. These were clearly civilian vehicles. Even shepherds were strafed and their flocks were killed. It was not always pinpoint bombing in that part of Iraq.

Guardian. The following is ex-

cerpted from information col-

lected by Cainkar during her trip.

She relayed her observations in

an interview to Tom Johnson, a

No doubt many of the people in those vehicles were dead because they had been burnt to a crisp. Many of these people were Iraqi civilians simply trying to flee

The next major bomb damage that I saw was the Al Falluja market. The British admitted to bombing it. The market is surrounded by four-storey apart-ment buildings. The Iragis say 100 people died in the market bombing. This was a case of "collateral damage" when they missed the bridge across the Eup-In Baghdad, what you see

mainly is government buildings blown up. But the bombs often hit houses next to them. And even if they didn't, the force of the bomb explosions would break every single window in a sixsquare block area.

The most striking thing about Baghdad is that you have to walk around with a flashlight - if you can get one -- or a candle. Most people used candles. There was no power at night much of the time that I was there, although it was improving. You couldn't drink the water coming out of the

When Iraqis can get fuel they use kerosene stoves. I saw an entire hospital ward of burnt children who tipped over these stoves. Their bodies are burnt from head to toe. And they have no way to treat these babies. The

them into some kind of bath and then to put a lotion on them. They don't have any of this. Of course the bath requires clean water, and they don't have the lotion. The burns become infected because they don't have the antibiotics to stop the infection. They can't do skin grafts, so these children will just become encased in scar tissue - if they

The next day I went to Basra from Baghdad. All the way down to Basra, all of the bridges had been blown up. There was one

traffic lane, at best, open.
On the way into Basra we'd been detoured through the desert and all you could see were bombed-out tanks and trucks and skeletons along the way. The main hospital had been hit by a bomb, and the one hospital that was working was filled with dying

I went from neighbourhood to neighbourhood in Basra, all hit by coalition bombs. The U.S.

press said it was carpet-bombed. The bombing was clearly not surgical in Basra area. The actual number of civilian deaths is unknown because the communications infrastructure has been destroyed so you can't call anywhere. But I myself can account for at least 600 dead in parts of Basra. Overall I personally counted about 4,000 civilian deaths in Iraq.

Iraqis would tell me: "We're back in the 17th century. We're back in the 18th century. We're back in the Stone Age." (Iraq's) infrastructure was very, very sophisticated; more than I've seen in any other Arab country. So you have a society that functions on the basis of assuming that they have telephones, electricity, running water, drinking water, a working sewage system, good hospitals, medical care, the best surgeons, good roads. None of that exists any more.

Hospitals are without medicine, without medical equipment, without water. How can surgeons perform an operation when they can't clean anything? "They have little or no electricity for lighting except in hospitals where standby generators are operating; they have no antibiotics. They have no refrigeration so they can't store any blood. They have no blood banks. There are severe fears of cholera, meningitis, typhoid and hepatitis epidemics. There are no vaccines in Iraq because of sanctions. They're still not being allowed to bring them in at the level in which they need them.

The way that surgical bombing was used was so that every single Iraqi would suffer. It's worse than random bombing. It's like neurosurgery: They took the brain out of an entire nation. So the functions that the brain is supposed to direct are just collapsing.

I saw hospital after hospital full of infants dying of mainutrition, dehydration, diarrhoea... infants that are maybe six months old and weigh less than their birth weight. I've seen hundreds and hundreds near death. And you must realise that, at best, only 10 per cent of the population can get to hospital or clinic.

The director of the children's hospital in Baghdad told me that every day they receive 40 new children - infants - and two of them are dead by the time that

normal treatment is to submerge they get there... For every 40 babies who arrive at that hospital, there are another 360 who might die because they can't get treatment. For every two who arrive dead, there may be another 20 who are dead and have not even gotten out of their houses. And this is in the region served by Baghdad - the area that's in the best shape. Imagine the rest of the country.

> This was a new kind of war and we have to look at it differently. I call it biological warfare. All of the deaths have not yet happened. How many people continue to die every day? Among children under five it's at least 100. How many are going to die in May and June and July when the tempera-tures rise? The greatest amount of civilian casualties has not yet even happened.

You know that when you're destroying infrastructure you've spreading disease. And when you have hot weather, the deaths rise exponentially.

Because of sanctions, you don't

have a medical system. You've got the technical expertise there. but they have nothing to work

Iraqi doctors told me that they can't even diagnose typhoid and cholera because they don't have the equipment to run lab tests. They have to rely solely on their clinical experience to diagnose and treat. They've even seen cases of polio, which was eradicated from Iraq 5 or 10 years ago.

While Cainkar was denied permission by the Kuwaiti government to enter the emirate, she was able to gather information on the situation of Palestinians in IN Baghdad I stayed in the Iraqi

Red Crescent Hospital. I met five Palestinians in the hospital who said they had been severely tortured by Kuwaitis and had just I have photos. You can see the

cigarette burns up and down their legs. They have bruises three inches wide by three inches long; one of them was hit in the head. They were walked on; they were hit with metal pipes; the torturers nlaved Russian roulette with them. And they said they were told things like, "We can't wait to have Israeli embassies in Kuwait; we can't wait to get rid of you

All of them reported being picked up off the street going to get bread, shopping or something like that. It's an ethnic thing; if you're Palestinian or Jordanian in Kuwait, you're the enemy and that's it. The most horrible thing that

they told me was that in each of the detention centres, which were schools, there were U.S. soldiers. The Americans could have prevented the torture and did not. I suppose they call that "not intervening in the internal affairs of another state." Everything that the Palestinians told me is consistent with the Amnesty International report (documenting the torture and execution of Palestinians in Kuwait).

The Pentagon has issued a 200-page report (before Kuwait's "liberation") about the fate of the Palestinians and others in Kuwait. It labels the Palestinians as "security threats," thereby setting the stage for human rights abuses, including torture and ex-



Three-month-old Marya Idan Haiwa (with her mother) is one of Baghdad's many children who have been burnt by tipped-over kerosine lamps in use after U.S. bombs destroyed the country's electrical grid

of Palestinians. It calls for the reinstitution of dictatorship in Kuwait, the abrogation of press freedoms, all of it. It was all known and planned for.

The United States bombed a

civilian air raid shelter in the Al

ecution. It predicts the expulsion

Amiriya neighbourhood in Baghdad on Feb. 13, claiming it was a military target. THE worst day of my life is the day I went to Amiriya, a middleclass neighbourhood in Baghdad. When I first came into Iraq, I van with a 23-year-old Jordanian youth named Ghassan. He'd lost

his mother and four sisters in the bomb shelter. When somebody has died in a war in Iraq, they put a black banner on the house. Every single house in Amiriya had one of these banners. Some families lost 15 people in that bomb shelter.

I went to Ghassan's house and he and his father, Mohammad, were at home. The father, who spoke English, immediately brought out a bin of photos and sat with me. He showed me photos of all his daughters and his wife. He would point to one and say: "She was going to go to medical school, but that was be-fore the accident." He called it "the accident." And then he'd say: "We were going to do this, but that was before the accident." He was a professor at Baghdad University.

He took me through their house and showed me his daughters' rooms. He opened their

drawers and showed me their little trinkets. Then he said, "You know, this is the first time that I've been able to touch these

Shortly before we left, a woman, who survive the bombing came in. As much as I could see of her flesh was covered with burns. She said that when the first bomb hit they were all sleeping. She was startled awake and was picked up by the crowd fleeing toward the exit doors. The second bomb sealed the inner doors shut and made escape impossible. Everybody left inside was incinerated.

When I saw this woman, all I could do was cry. You can't say, "I'm sorry." You can't say, "We didn't mean to do it." I felt that every American should be sitting this spot where I was sitting. Every single one, especially those people waving flags, should see what we did to these people. To be an American in this neighbourhood is to feel like a mass murderer a participant in a massacre. People in the neighbourhood

say that there were 1,600 people in the shelter. The capacity is 2,000, but they're sure there were 1.600 people inside - nearly all women and children.

For a copy of the full report, send \$5.00 to: Palestine Human Rights Information Centre, 4753 N. Broadway, Suite 930, Chicago, IR. 60640.

The article is reprinted from The Guardian, a New York-based radical newsweekly.

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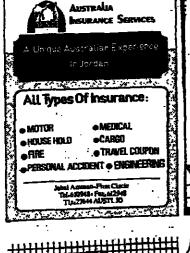
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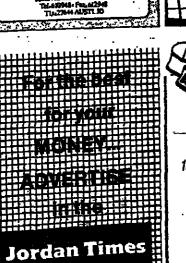
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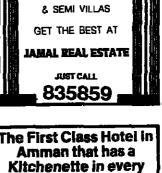
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Capriati advances at French Open

PARIS (AP) - Jennifer Capriati, a semifinalist in her French Open debut last year, had to struggle to overcome the looping "moon balls" of Italian Katia Piccolini as the tournament opened Monday.

The 15-year-old American, seeded 10th, saved three set points in the second set and won 6-2, 7-5 in the first match on centre court. It took her 89 minutes to overcome Piccolini, 18 and ranked 52nd in the world, who relied largely on long, high-

arching ground strokes. The first two seeded men in action advanced more easily. The no. 5 seed, clay-court specialist Sergi Bruguera of Spain, overpowered Scott Davis, 6-3, 6-2, 6-1.

Tenth-seeded American Michael Chang, the 1989 winner, defeated Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands, 6-2, 6-0 6-3.

Chang and unseeded Mats Wilander are the only former champions left in the men's field, following the withdrawal of 1990 winner Andres Gomez and threetime champion Ivan Lendl due to

Capriati, who last year didn't lose five games in any set until her semifinal loss to Monica Seles, admitted losing her patience as she fell behind Piccolini 3-5 in the second set. She saved three set points in the ninth game, regained her composure and closed out the match de-

Andre Agassi, last year's runner-up and this year's no. 4 seed, was expected to play Marc Rosset of Switzerland in one of Monday's feature matches.

Other opening-day stars included two American veterans

who've never won a French Open
— John McEnroe, seeded 15th and Jimmy Connors, recipient of a wild-card berth.

The no. I seeds Edberg and defending women's champion Monica Seles — start play Tuesday, as does men's second seed Boris Becker.

Steffi Graf, no. 2 in the women's field and determined to oust Seles from the no. 1 ranking, was to open Monday on centre court against Bulgaria's Magdelena Maleeva. No. 3 seed Gabriela Sabatini, also with a chance to replace Seles, goes into action Tuesday against American Marianne Werdel.

McEnroe, 32, hasn't played a French Open since 1988. His best showing was a loss in the final in 1984, and his draw this year leads to a potential third-round encounter with Edberg.

To get even that far, McEnroe must survive Monday's match with Soviet Andrei Cherkasov. 20, ranked 17th in the world the highest of any player not seeded in Paris.

"I'm not expecting to win the tournament,' McEnroe said. "I've just come to play well."
Connors, 38, skipped the French Open last year after losing in the second round in 1989. He opens against fellow American

Todd Witsken, 27. This was Connors' 12th crack at the French Open - the only Grand Slam event he's never won. His best results were four semifinal appearances, most recently in 1985.

Becker also has won each Grand Slam title except the French Open, and a victory here could move him past Edberg back



into the no. 1 spot. He opens Tuesday against Jordi Arrese of

Third-seeded Lendl and no. 13 Jonas Svensson withdrew Sunday because of injuries. Under tournament rules, those seeded positions will now remain vacant - Agassi, for example, does not

move from no. 4 to no. 3 seed. The United States had by far the largest contingent in the men's field, with 21 of the 128 players, including six seeds. France was next with 14 entrants. The men's champion will win \$432,000 at Roland Garros, while the women's champion will earn \$395,000.

Seles, aat a news conference Sunday, accused tournament officials of shortchanging women by refusing to dole out equal prize money, as is done at the U.S. and Australian Opens.

"We're not asking for something incredible, we're asking for fairness. I don't see why men will get more prize money than us here," she siad. "It's a tradition, but I think a lot of traditions ought to change.'

Juventus mourns failure to qualify for Europe

Traditional Italian soccer giants Juventus were left peering uncertainly into the future Monday after failing to qualify for European competition for the first time for 28 years.

A 2-0 defeat in their last match of the season at Genoa Sunday condemned Juventus to seventh place in the table.

Having spent \$48 million on the transfer market last year to create the "team of the future" around players like Italian Roberto Baggio and German Tomas Haessler, there was understandable disappointment behind

This has been a very bitter pill. We'll have to start all over again from the beginning," said club President Vittorio Chiusano.

"That's all there is to say. Tomorrow it will be another Juventus.'

Captain Stefano Tacconi offered no excuses for his side's poor season, saying: "It (the season) began badly and finished

worse. We're very sad." Genoa, in contrast, were celebrating their achievement in qualifying for Europe for the first time. Their goals Sunday came from Brazilian Branco and

Czechosiovak Tomas Skuhravy. The city of Genoa can arguably claim to be the new capital of Italian soccer following Sampdoria's achievement in seeing off the bigger clubs in Milan. Turin

and Rome to take the title. The new champions go in

athletes are once again welcome

at international track meets, but

only in Africa, the sport's governing body announced Monday.

Athletic Federation (IAAF) decided to partially lift its ban on

South Africans in international

competition because of the gra-

dual easing of apartheid, said

IAAF President Primo Nebiolo.

South Africans would be res-

tricted at first to meets in Africa

and to those in which only Afri-

A broader lifting of the ban.

could come after another IAAF

delegation studies the "evolution

of South Africa's political and

sports situation" in late June, he

South Africa's membership in

was made after the federation's

23-member council, meeting at a

Tokyo hotel, heard a report from

a fact-finding mission that visited

South Africa earlier this month.

added.

can athletes are competing.

The International Amateur

S. Africa can return

to African track meets

search of a league and cup double when they meet AS Roma in the first leg of the Italian Cup final

Thursday.
In Spain, Real Madrid are only point away from securing a place in next season's UEFA Cup but, with games against Atletico Madrid and Barcelona to come,

Yugoslav coach Radomir Antic cannot afford to relax. "There is only a point to go but

we have two very strong dishes still to eat," Antic said after Saturday's 2-1 home win over Sporting Gijon. Antic was hired to give last

season's champions a dignified

European Soccer

exit from a humiliating season, but is likely to be replaced next season by former Colombian national coach Francisco Maturana, currently at Valladolid.

With two matches to go to the end of the Dutch League season, PSV Eindhoven and Ajax Amsterdam are equal on points and the title's looking increasingly likely to be settled by goal difference.

Former England manager Bobby Robson's PSV are four goals better off at the moment. They face third-placed FC Groningen and Volendam in their final

Ajax face struggling SVV Schiedam who desperately need points to avoid relegation, and Vitesse Arnhem, currently fifth

and still in with a chance of a

place in the UEFA Cup if they can catch FC Utrecht.

The Dutch entry to the European Cup Winner's Cup will be decided Sunday when Feyenoord Rotterdam meet second division side BVV Den Bosch in the

Dutch Cup Final. Bayern Munich, seemingly out of the Bundesliga title race a month ago have roared back into contention after Saturday's 7-3 drubbing of already relegated Hertha Berlin.

Bayern, two points behind Kaiserslautern with three games to play, have an easy looking match next week away to strugglers Wattenscheid. Kaisersautern, in contrast, travel to third-placed Werder Bremen who are still playing for a UEFA Cup

nlace. Portugal's Benfica celebrated their recapture of the Portuguese soccer championship with a comfortable 3-0 home win against Beira Mar Sunday.

Swedish substitute Matts Magmusson opened the way to victory in the 55th minute. Rui Aguas followed with two goals — a 69th minute header and another two minutes from the end - to become the season's top soccer with a tally of 25.

Last year's champions Porto ended two points behind their Lisbon rivals after thrashing Guimaraes at home 5-0.

Striker Domingos de Oliveira scored four of the goals, one of them a penalty, to end the season just one goal behind Aguas on the list of scorers. Brazilian import Paulo Pereira netted the fifth

Sporting consolidated their third place, 13 points behind the champions, by beating Gil Vicente at home 2-0 with goals by Brazilian import Hamilton de Sousa Careca and Fernando Gomes. With the first division being reduced to 18 teams next season instead of 20, five teams, Belenenses, Nacional de Madeira, Estrela da Amadora, Setubal and Tirsense were relegated. Pacos de Ferreira, Estoril and Torreense were promoted to the first divi-

In London four policemen were injured when British soccer fans threw bottles at them after a celebration in central London turned violent Sunday.

Seven people were arrested and charged with public order

The trouble in London's Trafalgar Square flared when about 500 soccer fans gathered after a lower division trophy final be-tween Birmingham City and Tranmere Rovers at Wembley.

Police said a further 44 people were arrested in and around Wembley after the match, which Birmingham City won 3-2.

HOROSCOPE NOT RECEIVED



Marseille, Red Star prepare for battle of wits BARI, Italy (R) - Olympique Marseille and Red Star Belgrade have been developing tactics to allow their gifted individuals

space in midfield in Wednesday's European Cup final. Marseille's wily Belgian coach Raymond Goethals said: "It's very simple, if we look up the

midfield, victory is ours. Goethals, whose squad arrived in the Italian Adriatic port city of Bari Monday from a retreat in the French Alps, added: "Our confi-

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) -

Peace Corps held off Kit Lobell,

another U.S.-bred. Swedish-

owned filly, by a nose in the 40th

Elitloppet Sunday to become the

first female horse in 15 years to

win the world's richest harness

Peace Corps, the 1989 U.S.

trotter of the year and the fastest

filly in the world, covered the

mile in 1 minute, 56.2 seconds.

It was 1.9 seconds off last

year's winning time, when Mack

Lobell trounced Peace Corps in

the first-ever meeting between

the world's fastest male and

race, especially toward the end when Kit Lobell made a strong

challenge. She is a tough lady,

said driver Stig. H. Johansson. Johansson, Sweden's leading

driver with 3,238 winners, tied

the all-time record by winning the

prestigious race for the fourth

time and improved Peace Corps'

record to 47 wins in 59 starts.

The 5-year-old Peace Corps,

"But she had an outstanding

female trotters.

race for seasoned trotters.

Peace Corps Wins Sweden

harness race by a nose

dence is sky high."

"The players have not lost for more than four months and it looks like nothing bad can happen to them."

Red Star, who checked in at a secluded hotel 40 kilometres south of Bari last Friday, fear Marseille's forwards, Englishman Chris Waddle, Jean-Pierre Papin of France and Ghanaian Abedi

The trio combined to tear open double European champions AC

who had an impressive win in the

Osio Grand Prix two weeks ago,

is unbeaten in six starts this year.

Swede Berndt Lindstedt in the

sulky, finished one-tenth of a

second behind. Neally Lobell,

another U.S.-bred, Swedish-

owned horse, led before the last

turn but dropped back to fifth.

of two qualifying heats and gave

owner Bjorn Pettersson, who

purchased the horse from Amer-

ican Lou Guida for \$1.6 million

two years ago, a total of

\$210,000. The purse boosted her

career earnings to more than \$3

Lobell to victory in the second

qualifying heat, but the U.S.-

bred 5-year-old broke early in the

final with Swede Oile Goop in the

Mack Lobell, the 1987 U.S.

trotter of the year and also

Swedish-owned, was scratched

from the race because of a recent

Johanson also drove Shogun

Peace Corps also won the first

Kit Lobell, with U.S.-based

Milan's defence in the quarterfin-

"I'll probably resort to man-toman marking only on Papin and Waddle," Red Star's coach Ljupko Petrovic said.

"I'll have the rest of the team playing zonally because I believe it's the only way to avoid the French side's pressing and dizzying rhythm."

of some skilled opponents, most notably 22-year old Robert Prosinecki, Red Star's playmaker since Dragan Stojkovic joined the French club after the World Cup. "Belgrade have got a very

strong midfield with top class

players and we will have to watch

Marseille will no doubt be wary

them very carefully," Goethals The Marseille coach has said Stojkovic, who has missed most

would start on the bench. The match could hinge on the finishing of Papin and his opposite number Darko Pancev, both prolific scorers in league and European football this season.

But Petrovic believes teamwork rather than individuals will settle the issue.

"I've told my players they'll win if they manage to apply my instructions to the letter," he

Concentration, which Red Star have struggled to find in recent weeks, could prove as important as tactics and the Yugoslavs have brought along a psychiatrist to ensure they are in the right frame of mind.

"The match on Wednesday is the most important in the club's history and we want to be sure about everything," Petrovic said. The Yugoslavs also have a

nowerful financial incentive to help boost their concentration. They will be fired by reported bonuses of \$10,000 a man to win and the prospect of lucrative transfers to Western European dubs.

the IAAF was suspended in 1976 But the Italian press has reas part of international sanctions ported that Marseille players against apartheid - South Afrihave been offered as much as ca's policy of racial separation. \$200,000 per man to lift the cup. Red Star boast the sole former European Cup finalist in 27-year-South Africa's conditional return

old Romanian defender Miodrag Belodedic, who won the trophy with Steaua Bucharest in 1986. The Bari Stadium, which has a capacity of 57,000, was one of the

"Naturally, the most important venues for last summer's World condition is the abolishment of apartheid," Nebiolo said. "If Local authorities have banned talks are to continue, apartheid drinking in the city Wednesday as must finish." a precaution against rowdy be-

South African President F.W. necessary, Nebiolo said.

TOKYO (AP) - South African De Klerk has promised to repeal remaining apartheid laws by the end of June. South Africa recently met another LAAF condition by creating a unified, non-racial national athletic governing body.

The 185-member IAAF has accepted that governing body as a provisional member of the African Amateur Athletic Federation, thus opening the way for South Africans to compete in IAAF-authorised meets in Afri-Nebiolo said the return of ca, Nebiolo said.

> He refused, however, to comment on whether South Africans would be elgible to compete in the upcoming World Championships, scheduled to begin in Tokyo on Aug. 23.

More than 1,750 athletes from 160 countries are expected to compete in the championships, which are held once every four

Nebiolo has said that if South Africa misses the world championships, its athletes probably summer Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain, next year.

The deadline for entries to the World Championships is Aug. 14. But the IAAF's second delegation isn't scheduled to report on whether South Africa's membership should be restored until Aug. 19.

An earlier meeting of the IAAF could be called if deemed

"If we dress up like pigeons and mooch bread crumbs in the park, we can lower our grocery bill." JUNIBILE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lea Unscramble these four Jumbles LOJYL

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PEOPLE SAID HIS SELF-WORSHIP AMOUNTED TO THIS. TULIED Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above carbon.

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Jumbles: QUOTA LINEN MEMOIR UNPAID Answer: When the company went out of business, they all had a few refreshments to mark this— THE "LIQUIDATION"

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East-West vulnerable. NORTH

Q 10 7 6

♠ K 10 9 7 43 AQ9 WEST EAST \$3 \tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilie{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde{\tilde

4 A Q J 8 5 2 . J 6 3 ♣ J 5 The bidding: South West North East 4 🛊 Pass

SOUTE

Opening lead: King of 7 Beware of giving an opinion on how to play a suit combination. What could be right in the abstract might be wrong given the particular hand where the problem arises. Take North-South's diamond suit-If you need three tricks from the suit and know nothing about the distribution, the correct line is to run the jack and, if covered, return to hand to finesse the nine. Howev-er, if you can find out that West rect play is to lead low and finesse

the queen, then cash the ace.

North-South reached a reason able four-spade contract in quick time. North-South were employing weak two-bids, and South's hand was classic at any vulnerability. West competed with three hearts and North, whose hand increased in value, since it was positioned behind the enemy strength, could hardly bid less than four spades.

The defense started by cashing two beart tricks, East following first with the seven, then with the sight, after which West exited with a trump. Since there was no way declarer could avoid losing a club trick, the diamond suit would have to be brought in without loss if the contract were going to succeed. Before committing to any line, declarer set about learning more about the hand

After drawing the outstanding trump, on which West discarded a heart, declarer ducked a club to West's king. The club continuation was taken with the ace and a club was ruffed high. Declarer returned to the board with a trump and ruffed the table's last club, as West discarded another heart. west was now known to have started with one trump and three clubs, and the bidding and play marked that defender for six hearts. That meant West held three diameters are the started of the seal of the started of the

monds, so declarer led the jack of diamonds and subsequently fi-

nessed the nine to land the game

Peanuts HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT

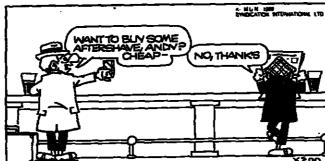


I HAVE NO INTENTION EVER TO 60 AWAY TO SEA FOR THREE YEARS..





Andy Capp







Mutt'n'Jeff



THE Daily Crossword by James Barrick

1 Mirmetic 6 Openhanded one 11 Climber 14 ft. poet 15 Banks or Kovacs Kovacs
16 Once called
17 Growing
younger
19 Finesse 20 Addict 21 Estuary 22 Chests old style 24 Legal matter 25 Unit of work 26 Catch 28 C'— Ia vie 29 Declaim 31 Boldness 32 Bring on 20 Addict 32 Bring on 34 Official proceedings

proceedings
35 Rocky
Mountains
38 Thought
40 Trenchermen
41 Kind of aide
44 "Clair de —"
45 Puppeteer Band
48 Adhesive stuff
49 Bloodshot
50 Chemical ending
51 Musical
direction 7 Killer whate 8 Dir. letters 9 Made an anir sound 10 Eye part 11 Quickly 12 Slope 13 Still direction
52 Time
53 Noted figness
54 Storage place
55 Powerful

58 "— my brother's keeper?" 59 Stanza

60 Old hat

DOWN 1 Ask sole 2 Stops 3 Infuse 4 Eng. moi 5 Fawl

18 Corrigenda 23 Fine violets for short 25 Sea eagle 27 Sports org. 30 — wave 32 Pencil end 33 Rites 35 Teutonic 36 Superfical display 37 Angered 38 Bus. abbr. 61 Hawkshaw 62 Curves

(opportune 42 Salad plan 43 Rolling — 45 Satan 46 Shoe part

47 Horseshoe toss 54 Cudgel 52 Church area 56 Near grads 53 Miss James 57 Reptile

Yesterday's Puzzie Solved





Financial Markets

Jordan Times in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank



New York Cless trace24:5:91	Tokye Cluse nar 27/5/91
1.7355	1.7380
1.7035	1.6987
1.4515	1.4465
5.7920	5.7753 **
138.27	138.27
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Eurocurrency Interest Rates		Date: -/ : [44]		
1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS	
5.87	5.43	6.06	e.45	
11.50	11.25	11.00	10.93	
8.75	5.51	8.87	4.00	
6.00	7.95	7.57	7.75	
9.12	9,08	9.06	9.12	
7.90	7.55	7.5¢	7,40	
9.68	9.65	9.56	4.45	
	1 MTH 5.87 11.50 8.75 8.00 9.12 7.90	1 MTH 3 MTHS 5.87 5.93 11.50 11.25 8.75 8.51 8.00 7.95 9.12 9.06 7.90 7.95	1 MTH 3 MTHS 6 MTHS 5.87 5.93 6.06 11.50 11.25 11.00 8.75 8.31 8.87 8.00 7.95 7.87 9.12 9.06 9.06 7.90 7.95 7.56	

			Dave.	1:3 1991	
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD'Gm
Gold	356.35	6.60	Silver	4.05	.087

Сигтепсу	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	.660	.682
Sterling Pound	1.1798	1.1857
Deutsche Mark	. 3997	. 4017
Swiss Franc	. 4693	.4716
French Franc	.1177	.1183
Japanese Yen ^e	.4910	.4935
Dutch Guilder	. 3550	.3568
Swedish Krona	.1116	.1122
Italian Lira ^t	. 0538	.0541
Belgian Franc	.01931	.01941

Other Currencies	Dat	e: 27/5/1991
Corrency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7300	1.7400
Lebanese Lira*	.0740	.0760
Saudi Riyal	.1810	.1819
Kuwaiti Dinar	-	-
Qatari Riyal	_1830	.1840
Egyptian Pound	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	.2050
Omani Riyal	1.7150	1.7300
UAE Dirham	.1830	.1840
Greek Drachma*	. 3600	.3700
Cypriot Pound	1.4200	1.4400

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Index	22/5/1991 Clase	26/5/1991 Close
All-Share	114.13	113.72
Banking Sector	110.98	110.40
Insurance Sector	112.59	112.02
Industry Sector	117.51	117.29
Services Sector	126.65	126.93

Iran urges global dialogue to minimise oil price volatility

with a call for cooperation be- aftermath of the Gulf war. tween oil producers and consumers to minimise price volatility and promote economic stability.

revolution and shows its eagerness to present itself as a country the world can do business with.

the turnout - some 250 governhostile countries now were to stressed. cooperate with Iran.

By guaranteeing the demand for oil, and preventing unnecessary and destructive oil price fluc- depends on oil revenues to fund a tuations, the consumers too can five-year economic programme play their part in allowing for a that Iranian economists say will smooth and orderly implementa- require around \$27 billion in foretion of the producers' economic development projects," Iran's Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh

The three-day conference, entitled, "Oil and Gas in the 1990s: the 13-member body's twice-Prospects for Cooperation," is yearly meeting starts in Vienna attended by nine other oil minis- on June 4. ters from producer states.

Iran in 12 years. His government market rates. restored diplomatic relations with Tehran in March.

ministers opened a landmark in- Akbar Velayati called for coopternational conference Monday eration within the region in the

"We believe it is in the light of regional cooperation that foreign intervention can be prevented. The oil conference is Iran's Only as such can we decrease the largest since the 1979 Islamic presence of extra regional forces that come to preserve their interest in the region," he said.

"The time is ripe to muster all Arab and Western analysts said political, economic, financial and mineral resources and promote ment and oil company officials - an atmosphere of cooperation to reflected how ready previously ensure regional security." he

> Reconstruction after the eightyear war with Iraq is a top priority for the government, which ign credits.

Officials of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) say the Isfahan conference is especially important because

Members will then discuss the The keynote speaker is Saudi oil production levels needed to Arabia's Hisham Nazer, the defend the group's reference price first Saudi oil minister to visit of \$21 a barrel, \$3 above current

OPEC President Sadek Boussena of Algeria last week called In his speech to the gathering for a lower ceiling than the pre-in the central Iranian city of sent 22.3 million barrels per day.

CIA predicts tough year for Soviet Union

WASHINGTON (AP) — This (CIA) has told Congress.

If the current standoff con- the union together. tinues between the central gov-ernment in Moscow and its re-produce large amounts of food telligence agency said in a report. said.

That dismal outcome is likely even if Soviet President Mikhail chev renews his drive for economic reforms, said Mr. George Kolt, the agency's chief Soviet analyst. But only renewed reform can provide a brighter long-term outlook, he added.

"If economic reform continues to be postponed, the Soviets face a future of seemingly endless and worsening crises," the report

And, Mr. Kolt said, if the Moscow government turns to repressive steps to maintain control, it is likely to "prompt widespread resistance and bloodshed" leading to a downward economic spiral that could rival the United States' Great Depression of the first half of 1990 reached a record 1920s and 1930s.

Elements of the economy's curyear is likely to be "radically rent decline include production worse" than 1990 for the decrepit shortfalls, worsening inflation, a economy of the Soviet Union, the breakdown in trade among re-Central Intelligence Agency gions of the country and the fierce political struggle to hold

negade republics, the country's and other consumer goods have economy could decline by 10 per sought to protect themselves by cent to 15 per cent in 1991 and refusing to deliver products to the suffer an annual inflation rate of central government or to other more than 100 per cent, the in-traditional recipients, the report

The tendency mirrors what one survey showed was the practice of nine out of ten Soviet citizens who stockpile goods for future use, the report said. Many shoppers buy items they do not need to use in batering for things they do need, it said. Primary losers in this break-

down of the national distribution network have been industrial cities, non-agricultural regions and the tood processing industry. the CIA reported.

The Soviet trade picture also is suffering, despite a brief respite late last year from an increase in oil prices during the Gulf crisis. The country's trade deficit for the \$4 billion, the report said.

TOKYO — Index selling at the end of a day's thin trade brought the market to a lower close. The Nikkei average fell 103.26 points to 25,425.88

SYDNEY - Shares closed marginally lower in thin trade amid scattered support from local institutions. The All Ordinaries index closed at 1,535.1 points, down 1.7.1.

HONG KONG - Shares ended near lows after falling sharply at the opening on the back of full -point jump in domestic interest rates. The Hang Seng index slid 128.46 points to 3.575.52. (MRVA).

SINGAPORE — Shares closed mixed as selective bargain hunting alternated with profit-taking in quiet trade. The Straits Times index shed 6.11 points to 1,541.49.

BOMBAY - Shares rallied in new account trading buoyed by hopes of better chances for the rightist Bharatiya Janata Party in Indian elections. The BSE index rose 3.01 points to 1,317.90. FRANKFURT - German investors took advantage of the absence of U.K. and U.S. players to gain a foothold. The Dax index rose 9.58 points to 1,681.45.

ZURICH — Hopes for lower interest rates helped the SPI index gain 7.9 points to 1,111.1, a 1991 high.

PARIS — The CAC-40 index fell 3.31 points to 1,801.52 in a session robbed of interest by the holiday closure of London and

LONDON — The market was closed for a public holiday. On Friday, the FTSE index lost 11.7 points to 2,471.1.

NEW YORK - Markets were closed for the Memorial Day holiday. On Friday, the Dow Jones Industrial average ended up 14 at 2,914.

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HER ALIBI

Show: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

THREE FUGITIVES

Cinema MUOUM

Yousef Shaaban and Fifi Abdo Mulid and the Sahbo Ghayeb (Arabic)

Show: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30, p.m.



Tel: 675571

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

PHILADELPHIA

Show: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Tel: 625155 RAINBOW

Lalla Alawi THE INTOXICATED

Arabic

Show: 30:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.



Trade chief says free trade vital to U.S. exports

WASHINGTON (R) - Trade Representative Carla Hills said Sunday that free-trade agreements such as the one Washington is negotiating with Mexico can create 22,000 U.S. jobs for

every \$1 billion in new exports. The U.S.-Mexico trade pact, which she hopes to seal by year's end, is a key part of a strategy to promote U.S. competitiveness and boost exports. Hills said.

She added that exports have accounted for more than half of U.S. growth in the last two or three years.

"If we limit ourselves to our domestic market we are going to lose the opportunity to build jobs and economic strength worldwide," she said in an interview on U.S. television.

She said free trade could add 22,000 jobs for every \$1 billion in

In the same programme, Senator Donald Riegle, a Michigan Democrat who sits on an important trade subcommittee, said that he intended to propose leg-islation that would allow any U.S.-Mexico free-trade agreement to be reopened for negotiation in five key areas, including labour and environmental stan-

Such a move would run counter to the vote taken by Congress last week, which cleared the way for U.S. officials to negotiate a freetrade package with Mexico that legislators could only vote ves or no on - not accept or reject piecemeal.

The vote, which also gave the same so-called "fast-track" authority to global trade talks, capped months of intense debate and stiff opposition from labour unions and some consumer groups who fear U.S. job losses and lack of environmental controls.

Hills, however, dismissed such worries, saying that a North American free-trade-zone — including Canada, which already has an agreement with the United States - would increase exports and thus create more jobs.

Mexican secretary for trade and industry, Mr. Jaime Serra Puche, also speaking in a television interview, said he doubted removing barriers to trade will create a huge exodus of U.S. industry to low-wage Mexico where enforcement of pollution controls are laxer.

central heating and intercom.

Also 2 small furnished bedrooms available.

Sudan announces pay rises for state employees

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan's budget.

Finance and Planning Minister The total expenditure includes Abdul Rahim Hamdi has the 10.4 billion pounds (\$2.3 bilannounced pay rises of 30 to 100 hon) development budget.

monthly wage would double to 600 pounds (\$134 at the official rate of exchange) while the highest salary, about 2,700 pounds (600), would rise by 30 per cent.

The agency said the rises were part of the 1991/92 budget

approved by the ruling military council and the largely civilian

cabinet Saturday.

Mr. Hamdi said total expenditure in the budget for the year to June 30, 1992, was 42.5 million pounds (\$9.6 billion) while re-International Monetary Fund to venue would be about 41.2 billion try to win removal of a five-yearpounds, leaving a deficit of 1.3 billion pounds compared to 3.3 billion pounds in the 1990/91 be no increase in taxes or prices the official rate.

Agency (SUNA) said Monday.

SUNA said the minimum 32.6 billion (\$7.2 billion). He gave no details on where the higher revenue was expected

to come from. new budget was to increase the rate of growth to two per cent and

to haive inflation to 50 per cent within a year. He gave no figure for current growth. Sudan, ravaged by drought and civil war and unable to service any part of its \$13 billion foreign debt, last week held talks with the

old ban on fresh credits. The minister said there would

for sugar and bread. The cost of diesel and pertrol bought to supplement the rationed quantity

per cent for state employees from July 1, the official Sudan News venue would increase from 16 change revenues were expected hillion pounds (\$3.6 billion) to to reach \$1.6 billion, made up of \$450 million from exports. \$110 million from services, \$100 million from expatriate remittances, \$410 million in commodity loans Mr. Hamdi said one aim of the and grants and \$519 million from loans and grants for development projects.

Imports will be priced at the free market rate of exchange of 12.2 pounds to the dollar instead of the official rate of 4.5 pounds. To offset the price rises, customs duties will fall by up to 20 per

Wheat, flour, petrol, pharmaceuticals, and imports by United Nations agencies, embassies, and charities will still be priced at

UAE minister sees higher oil prices by end of year

NICOSIA (R) - United Arab Emirates (UAE) Oil Minister Yousef Ben Omeir Ben Yousef has said world oil prices could rise by the year-end, the Emirates news agency WAM reported.

"Many analysts were talking about \$10 a barrel and even less. On the contrary, prices have sta-bilised at \$20," he was quoted as telling reporters.

"Prices could witness some improvement during this (coming) period," he said in an apparent reference to the third and fourth quarter of this year when demand for oil traditionally increases in the northern hemisphere.

"If we take (British) North Sea Brent crude as a barometer then conditions are far better than was expected," WAM, received in Cyprus, quoted Mr. Yousef as semi-annual meeting in Vienna prices and production.

Saying.

Brent prices are currently

tries (OPEC) minimum reference price of \$21 for a basket of seven Kuwait resume production light crudes.

constant contact with independent producers tro reduce output f required to stabilise prices.

The UAE has boosted output by nearly 60 per cent to 2.4 part of OPEC's efforts to stabilise members of the Gulf Coopera-prices after Iraqi and Kuwaiti tion Council (GCC)," he said. output was lost in the Gulf crisis. The group argeed at its last meeting in March to cut output

by five per cent to prevent an expected drop in oil prices. OPEC is scheduled to hold its

Mr. Yousef, who replaced forhovering at around \$20 a barrel mer oil minister Mana Said al compared with the Organisation Oteiba last November, said it was of Petroleum Exporting Coun-premature to talk about what OPEC would do when Iraq and

Before Iraq's invasion of Mr. Yousef said OPEC was in Kuwait last August, the two key OPEC members pumped around 4.7 million b/d.

"The UAE is always seeking to work for oil price stability and safeguard the interests of all parmillion barrels per day (b/d) as ties through its coordination with

The GCC includes four OPEC members Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE and Qatar. Bahrain and Oman are relatively smaller producers but have generally followed the group's policies on

N.Y. City set to deepen debt as state still stalled on budget

NEW YORK (R) - New York U.S. recession. City Sunday seemed set to plunge even deeper in debt after New York State Governor Mario Cuomo and the state legislature failed to agree on a state budget by a Saturday deadline.

A spokesmán for Mayor David Dinkins, Mr. Lee Jones, said the city would present state lawmakers with legislation on Tuesday that would allow it to borrow \$3 billion to make up for the shortfall caused by the state's failure to pass a 1991-92 budget.

The budget is a record 56 days overdue. New York City and the state have been hard hit by the

Mr. Jones said chances were becoming "more and more remote with each passing hour and each passing day" that the city could avoid selling \$3 billion in notes to pay off \$2.5 billion in notes due on June 28 and have cash available.

several weeks to transfer money - the largest U.S. city - once a

budget is passed.

Officials in Albany, the state

capital, said three was little prospect of any budget agreement before Tuesday, when financial markets reopen following the Memorial Day holiday weekend. Cuomo, a Democrat, is at odds

with the assembly, the State and city officials set Democratic-dominated lower Saturday as the "catastrophe chamber, over how to raise the day" deadline because it takes revenue needed to close the chamber, over how to raise the state's \$6.5 billion budget deficit. from the state to New York City The Republican-run Senate disagrees with both the governor and the assembly, as it seeks to New York City is facing a \$3.5 cut medical and housing benefits billion budget deficit and its worst for the poor and elderly.

France escapes recession

PARIS (R) - France's economy services was unchanged in the was on the verge of recession in would have problems reaching its 1991 growth forecast of two per

the first quarter of the year and economists said the government of Prime Minister Edith Cresson

The total output of goods and

bathrooms, modern kitchen, L-salon, colour TV, telephone,

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camera & computers.

showed only stock accumulation, government spending and house APARTMENTS FOR RENT building prevented the economy from contracting for the second Deluxe furnished apartments 3 bedrooms & 2 bedrooms, 2

quarter after contracting by 0.2 per cent between October and December, the National Statistics Institute (INSEE) said. A classic definition of recession is a downturn in the economy in

The first quarter figures consecutive quarter.

Economic growth slowed in 1990 to 2.8 per cent from 4.5 per cent in 1989. Business surveys and car sales figures suggest that the economy started to pick up in

Mrs. Cresson has vowed to reinvigorate French industry to bring down the nation's unemployment rate — one of the highest in Europe at 9.3 per cent and strengthen the overall economy for the advent of Europe's single market in 1993.

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1985 Mazda GLX 626 automatic, red sports coupe, 90,000 km, excellent condition. Reserve price JD 1,500.

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OPENING SOON SMART LOOK

U.N. disarmament meeting calls for arms registry

KYOTO, Japan (R) — Key speakers at a United Nations Disarmament Conference called Monday for a weapons trade registry as a means of improving surveillance of the international arms trade.

"Favourable conditions are emerging today for... the idea of establishing a register of arms sales and supplies within the United Nations," Soviet Vice Fore-ign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky said in his address on the opening dat of the second United Nations Conference on Disarmament

Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said: "the estab-lishment of a U.N. register of arms sales... would be a very useful step forward...

Officials and experts from 37 countries are taking part in the four-day meeting at Japan's ancient capital of Kyoto.

Major topics at the conference which comes only three months after the end of the Gulf war, included ways to regulate sales of conventional weapons, how to speed up a ban on chemical weapons, and methods of strengthening the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Speakers Monday called on participants to quicken the pace of negotiations for the chemical weapons convention, under dis-

(R) — NATO's new strategy will

keep crises in Europe from turn-

ing into full-blown conflicts, the

Western alliance's top comman-

NATO supreme military com-

mander in Europe, said the 16-

member alliance was not looking

at any particular threat in the

of instability and unpredictability

and uncertainty as we go into the

future," said Galvin, citing the

Soviet Union after the fall of

communism in Eastern Europe as

before receiving an honorary law

degree from the University of

Maryland's European division in

Heidelberg, home to a large

things here is to look at crisis management," said Galvin.

"How do we keep a crisis from

strategy aims to deal with any

tory, rather than just to one massive

attack from the now-defunct

Galvin said a new multination-

PARAMARIBO, Suriname

(AP) — Voters restored nominal

civilian rule to Suriname but the

military-backed party gained

strong backing in weekend par-

liamentary elections called after

the army seized power five

The New Front for Democracy

months ago.

The alliance's new military

"One of the most important

U.S. military community.

spilling over into conflict."

He was speaking to reporters

"What we look at is a situation

U.S. General John Galvin,

der in Europe has said.

post-cold war era.

an example.

Crisis management is new

NATO strategy — Galvin

HEIDELBERG, Germany al "rapid-reaction force" that

cussion for about two decades in

They welcomed U.S. President George Bush's recent declaration that the United States would scrap all chemical weapons upon signing such a treaty, abandoning its stated policy to keep some weapons as a guarantee.

"The Gulf war created a tremendous opportunity to move quickly to rid the world of chemical weapons," said Ronald Lehman, head of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. "The moral reasons for eradicating this barbarous form of weaponry are well known.'

Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu called for a strengthening of the NPT and argued that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) should take forcible steps, or "special inspections," to verify that a country's nuclear research and development facilities were used only for peaceful purposes.

Until now, the IAEA has adhered to the policy that it would conduct only "regular inspections," which are made at government invitation.

"(Japan) believes serious study should be directed to the possibility of utilising special inspections as a means of enhancing the efficiency of the (IAEA's) safe-

could be deployed from Norway

to Turkey to deal with such new

threats would have "flexibility,

force - which NATO sources say

could have anything from 70,000

to 100,000 soldiers -- would be

one nation but several other

NATO members would help con-

tribute troops and equipment to

meet in Brussels this week to

approve the largest changes of

their force structure and strategy

since the alliance was founded in

NATO's 16 defence ministers

Other units would be led by

He said some units within the

versatility and mobility."

set up by two nations.

it, he said.

sion).

Georgian nationalist leader elected president North Korea, among other na-tions, has signed the NPT treaty but has refused IAEA inspections on the grounds that U.S. facilities

TBILISI, Soviet Union (R) -Georgain nationalist leader Zviad Gamsakhurdia has won an overwhelming victory in the Soviet Union's first direct elections for a Republican president, preliminary results showed Monday.

A spokesman for the electoral commission said Gamsakhurdia. bent on a radical course of independence from Moscow, had won per cent of the vote in Sunday's poll. His nearest rival, economist Valerian Advadze, mustered six per cent.

Gamsakhurdia, first elected president by the Georgian parliament last October after his "Round Table" Coalition ended decades of Communist rule in republican polls, had accused Advaze and his four other opponents of serving Moscow's ends.

All six candidates had campaigned on a policy of Securing Georgian independence from the Soviet Union.

of the earth, so should it work to Gamsakhurdia's triumph will eliminate the scourge of chemical increase his authority in conflicts and biological weapons and the with Moscow over the republic's threat of irresponsible build-April declaration of independ-

It will also strengthen his radical internal measures to impose strong central authority on local

Disputes between Georgians and minority groups in the southern republic have erupted into violence. Scores have died in heavy fighting in the region of South Ossetia since the Georgian parliament dissolved its local autonomy last year.

Gamsakhurdia argues that these and other measures are necessary to root out the last vestiges of communism in the Transcaucasian Republic. His opponents accuse him of leading Georgia towards dictatorship.

Meanwhile nationalist groups from six Soviet republics said Sunday they had agreed to join forces to campaign for indepen-

Georgia, Latvia, Lithuania and Moldova - declined last month to join the nine other Soviet republics which agreed in principle on a new union treaty.

The forum pledged to meet at

publics signed an accord with President Mikhail Gorbachev last month agreeing in principle on the new union treaty. This will define division of powers between central and republican governments and is still being debated.

Gorbachev says all republics are free to leave the union, but must follow a five-year constitutional process. More radical nationalists, however, do not recognise their incorporation into

The forum said the Kremlin was trying to hang on to its "empire" through economic blockade, state terrorism and outright military aggression.

WASHINGTON (AP) - In-

formation that Japanese and

South Korean sensors had recent-

ly detected a temperature leap at

North Korea's nuclear complex

jarred U.S. analysts into an alert.

over satellite data, Seoul placed

its monitoring stations on alert

for radioactive particles in case

the temperature increase meant

While the Americans pored

mined he was not a journalist. They theorised that he hired the photographer as part of his masquerade. He became a suspect because of his mysterious disappearance after the assassina-

sources said. Neither has been identified.

strapped around her waist.

The mystery man had hired a Madras free-lance photographer to accompany him to the election rally at Sriperambudur, 40 kilometres southwest of Madras, according to the sources who spoke on condition of anonymity. He held a notebook and pen in his hand and stood next to the photographer before Gandhi ar-One of the 32 urns was given to an Indian Air Force officer to

tion they added. The mystery man and the woman who is the prime suspect both appear on a film taken by an amateur video film maker, the

of Gandhi took the ashes of the slain leader on a train of mourning Monday to be scattered in the water of sacred rivers.

Meanwhile, the grieving family

Gandhi's widow Sonia and two college-age children boarded the train with two copper urns containing some of Gandhi's cremated remains. After a 20-hour ride, the ashes will be immersed at Sangam, the confluence of the holy Ganges and Jamuna rivers which will bear them 1,000 kilometres to the Bay of Bengal.

reporter sought in Gandhi death They said they did not know scatter over the snowy Himalayan the man's identity but had deterashes of Gandhi's mother. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who was ssassinated in 1984.

The other urns, containing mostly ashes from the fragrant sandalwood funeral pyre, were given to state leaders of the Congress Party to take to their states. Talks were suspended until Wednesday on naming a new Congress Party leader, apparently deepening the disarray in the party which has dominated Indi-

an politics since independence from Britain in 1947. A consensus appeared to be emerging to appoint P.V. Narasimba Rao, a Congress veteran and old Gandhi family friend, as interim party president until after national elections are completed in mid-June. A first round of voting for a new parliament was held the day before the assassina-

Rao, 69, is in fragile health. A battle was under way for succession after the stop-gap president carries Congress through the

About 1,800 people have been

killed in the last nine months of

township fighting, most of it pit-

ting the ANC against the Inkatha

Freedom Party of Zulu chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

"The ANC shall.. continue to support the initiatives by religious

leaders and organised business to ensure a broad-based conference

is speedily convened," the ANC

It rejected a report in Johan-

nesburg's Business Day newspaper which quoted ANC sources as

saying the anti-apartheid move-

ment was encouraged by deci-

"The hasty judgment pro-

nounced by a nameless 'ANC

source' ...is not only ill-advised

but also inaccurate and unautho-

out for the polis for the govern-

ments of 13 of the country's 17

autonomous regions and for

mayors and councillors of more

Results showed the Socialists

leading the poll in nine of the 13

regions contested, with an abso-

lute majority in four. The PP led

The Socialists looked set to

govern in Barcelona with the

support of IU, but in Seville and

Valencia possible power-sharing

deals between the PP and region-

al parties could rob the Socialists

with the PSOE in a fourth.

than 8,000 municipalities -

against 69 per cent in 1987.

rised," the statement said,

sions at the Pretoria summit.

statement said.

Machine-gun enthusiasts have fun in Texas

HELOTES, Texas (R) — T smell of gunpowder filled the as hundreds of machine-gun e thusiasts gathered here for t fourth annual hill count machine gun shoot and sho Participants at the shoot, locat 20 miles (30 kilometres from t Texas city of San Antonio, paid \$5 admission fee and \$10 to re and shoot gans they usually s only in films or on television Organisers expect more the 1,000 visitors before the sho

forcement and military personn monitor safety.

'spied' on BBC iournalist LONDON (AP) - The Obse

ver, a respected British newspa er, reported Sunday that Scotlar Yard officials have admitted spying on a BBC journalist. The Observer said the target of the 1985 surveillance was Andre Jennings, a former reporter for the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC) "Brass Tacks" series. Ti paper said Jennings had been investigating allegations of a co rupt relationship between senior Scotland Yard detective and a notorious gangster. Ti Observer said officers staked or Jennings' home and tapped h phone. The newspaper said Jen tings was never accused of a offence. The newspaper said the Labour Party's shadow how affairs minister, Barry Sheema

wanted assurance from Scotlar Yard that other surveillance of erations have not been mounts against journalists, "It is essenti to clear up the deep worries the this has brought about," She man was quoted as saying. The Observer quoted Jennings

advising the agency.
"We have to watch develop-

ments very carefully since the mountain is likely to continue emitting lava and hot gases," he said in a televised interview near the smoking volcano.

expected to turn over power to But U.S. analysts aren't sure Kim's 49-year-old son has suffi-

The Korean peninsula was divided into communist North and pro-Western South in 1945. They fought in the early 1950s with Chinese support for the North and U.S. backing for the South.

ANC says South African peace summit produced little of note

Police said seven people were

shot, burned or stabbed to death

in political clashes in black

townships Sunday, taking the weekend death toll to at least 20.

in Pretoria the initiative could

work only if all sides in the

conflict, including the ANC, took

movement was committed to participating in a conference

which would set codes of conduct

for political parties and the secur-

discuss the powers and functions

of an independent commission on

violence and discuss a rebuilding

programme for violence-torn

turning a Socialist victory in 1987.

coalition also made gains, lifting its vote to 8.5 per cent from 6.9

The big loser was the Demo-cratic and Social Centre (CDS),

which saw its vote halved and was

eliminated from the councils of

CDS leader Adolfo Suarez,

prime minister during the early

days of Spain's democracy after

the death of dictator Francisco

all but one of the country's major in three regions and was level

The left-wing United left (IU)

Such a meeting should also

The ANC statement said the

De Klerk told the conference

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa's African National Congress (ANC) Monday dismissed a weekend state-sponsored peace summit as lacking in substance but said it would support a

rived, the sources said.

man who pretended to be a re-

porter is being sought by police in

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi,

according to sources close to the

Investigators think the man

might have been part of a backup squad which would have stepped

in if the primary assassin had lost her nerve and failed to detonate

the bomb which was designed to

blow her up along with Gandhi, the sources said Sunday.

The 18 people killed in last

Tuesdays bombing included a young woman who was cut to

pieces by what investigators de-

scribed as an explosive-laden belt

more broadly based conference. "The weekend conference on violence, unilaterally convened by state President (F.W.) De Klerk, has, as we feared, produced little by way of meaningful results," the ANC, which boycotted the conference, said in a statement.

The group, one of South Africa's biggest black political parties, said it was still studying conference decisions, which included setting up two committees to work for an all-party initiative

to end township violence. The bloodshed continued de-

The six - Armenia, Estonia,

The Kishinyov Forum, named after the Moldovan capital where their representatives met Saturday, said in a statement the Kremlin's refusal to let them leave the union was serious threat

"Normalisation of the situation in the Soviet Union and stability in the world are impossible without recognition and observance of the rights of the republics which have chosen to set up independent states," it said.

least once a month to coordinate activities and plan joint political action.

Leaders of the nine other re-

the Soviet Union at all.

cent from 20.3 per cent four years PP's biggest success was in the Strong quake hits islands near Tokyo

Just over 60 per cent of Spain's of control.

tion early Monday.

four years ago.

TOKYO (Agencies) — A strong earthquake jiggled islands off the east coast of Japan's main island horizontal ground motion at different locations and is not convertible to the Richter Scale.

The agency said the flow was of Honshu Monday morning, the

No damage or injuries were reported on Miyakejima Island in the 10:14 a.m. (0114 GMT) quake, the agency said. It placed the epicentre about 10 kilometres

Ocean 190 kilometres off Tokyo. The preliminary reading was 4.4 on the Richter Scale and three on the Japanese scale of seven. The open-ended Richter Scale is a gauge of the total strength of

an earthquake. A quake registering 4 on the scale is considered

Meanwhile, Mount Unzen, a once-dormant volcano on Japan's main southern island of Kyushu, spewed more lava and smoke Monday after erupting Sunday, injuring one person and forcing some 3,500 to flee.

Experts warned of continued activity.

Huge clouds of grey smoke covered the top of the rumbling volcano while lava seeped through cracks in its crown, according to the government's meteorological agency which monitors the volcano in western Kyushu's Nagasaki prefecture.

The minor eruption pushed a mixture of mud and rocks further down the 1,359-metre (4,142The agency said the flow was

just several hundred metres from suburb of Shimabara City as of Monday morning. On Sunday authorities evacuated the suburb's 3,500 residents

to emergency shelters in schools and other public buildings. One relief worker was burned by hot gas, the agency said. "The volcano is still very ac-

tive," said Daisuke Shimozoru. head of a seismologists' group

million man army - even at the expense of periodic food shortages -- and has become one of the top arms exporters in the Third World.

and Development, a four-party coalition that swept the 1987 elections with 95 per cent of the vote, was projected Sunday to have won 30 seats. That was down from 40 in the outgoing parliament and five short of the 34 needed for a crucial two-thirds expected to win nine seats.

Suriname voters restore

nominal civilian rule

The government installed by army chief Lt. Col. Desi Bouterse, reputed leader of a Christmas Eve coup here, won surprisingly heavy backing in Saturday's election of a National Assembly, ensuring continued strong military influence in running this remote South American country of 420,000 people. Computer projections by the

National Democratic Party would

Democratic Alternative '91, a newly formed reformist coalition of four parties favouring closer ties with the Netherlands, Suriname's former colonial ruler, was

The election bureau said the National Democrats could stand to lose one seat to the New Front when results from three remote districts in the jungle interior arrived. That would give the New Front 31 seats, according to the projections based on 168,899

Independent wins in Paraguay capital's municipal elections

ASUNCION, Paraguay (AP) — Independent Candidate Carlos Filizzola was elected mayor of Asuncion Sunday, and ruling Colorado Party candidates held an early edge in other cities in Paraguay's first-ever municipal

The elections were an outcome of democratic reforms after the Feb. 3, 1989, ouster of Gen. Alfredo Stroessner, who ruled

Paraguay for nearly 35 years. Gen. Andres Rodriguez, who led the coup, was elected president by a landslide three months later. His government removed restrictions on press freedom, issued new voting laws and allowed participation by opposi-tion parties and other previously

Filizzola's two main opponents conceded defeat and his supporters took to the streets to celebrate. Twelve candidates were running for mayor in Asuncion,

independent election bureau indicated that Bouterse's governing emerge as the single largest party in the National Assembly, or parliament, with 12 of 51 seats. Before the election, the party had

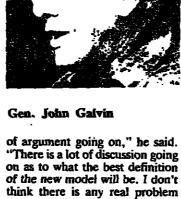
Paragnay's capital and largest city with nearly 1 million inhabitants. The victory by Filizzola, a 31year-old bachelor physician at Asuncion's largest charity hospital, broke five decades of Colorado Party control of the city's

> Previously, mayors and other municipal officials in Paraguay's 206 cities and towns were appointed by the president, served at his discretion and did

his bidding.
Filizzola, addressing a victory rally of 35,000 supporters, promised to "sweep corruption out" of

Several opposition parties threatened to seek annuiment of voting, citing dozens of cases of voting irregularities, including late delivery of required lists of

eligible voters to polling places. Election officials extended voting by three hours to compensate for late arrival of voter lists.



guard system," Kaifu said.

For the first time, officials from

North and South Korea are taking part in the U.N. conference.

in rival South Korea should also

This has been a roadblock in

talks between North Korea and

Japan or normalising relations.

Philippines Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus called on the

United Nations to go back to its roots to reduce the threat of

conflict so developing countries

could make better use of limited

funds for social programmes in-

"The developing nations now

spend \$170 billion annually for

arms, four times more than what

they spend on health and two

times more than what they spend

on education," Manglapus said.

Monday's five speakers all

"Just as the U.N. has virtually

wined out smallpox from the face

ups," Lehman said.

urged the United Nations to take

a more active role in global dis-

stead of weapons purchases.

be subject to verification.

with the overall models. When you get down to details then a lot people have different ideas." Britain wants to take command

"I don't think everything necessarily will fall into place this week," Galvin said. "What we want to find here is consensus and of the force and provide two of its four divisions, according to solidarity on the new force structure... that maybe worked out NATO sources. But the Germans this week. It may be simply workwant a more flexible arrangement, with a more multinational ed out in general terms and then command structure.

we'll just continue this (discus-Galvin said the United States. He sought to play down a row which is expected to reduce its potential threat to NATO terri- between Britain and Germany military presence in Europe by over the "rapid reaction force" two-thirds, leaving 100,000 which defence ministers will seek troops, would be willing to provide ground troops for multina-"I would not say there is a lot

Seoul cabinet to restore

order SEOUL (R) - South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo told his newly reshuffled cabinet to restore order Monday while angry students in Seoul clashed with police over the death of a col-

league.
"There exist forces which deny the existence of the democratic system itself, thus increasing the worries of the people," state radio quoted Roh as telling newly appointed ministers at a

swearing-in ceremony. "The cabinet should make allout efforts to establish social order and stability as quickly as possible," Roh said at his heavily guarded official residence in

northern seoul.

cuss steps to regain public confidence in his government.

More than 2,000 students at Sungkyunkwan Confucian University clashed with police when they tried to march off their campus in northern Seoul, witpesses said. They were despersed

The president is to chair a

cabinet meeting Tuesday to dis-

with tear-gas. The students earlier held a memorial rally for a woman student killed in a demonstration Saturday.

South Korea faces continued protests this week. It has been shaken by often-violent demonstrations since late April when riot police in Seoul beat a student protester to death.

The ensuing crisis forced Roh to replace hardline premier Ro Jai-Bong, a target of the protesters, and five other ministers. Roh sacked the home minister a day after police battered student kang Kyung-Dae to death on April 26.



MADRID (R) — Spain's ruling Socialist Party increased its support in nationwide local elections but lost the capital Madrid to opposition conservatives, official

results showed Monday. With 99 per cent of the votes counted from Sunday's polls, Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez's Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) had won 38.4 per cent of the vote,

up from the 37.2 per cent it recorded in local elections in

The conservative Partido Popular (PP), led by Jose Maria Aznar, raised its vote to 25.2 per Franco, announced his resigna-

Central Meteorological Agency

below the sea bed in the Pacific

"strong," and 5 "very strong." The Japanese scale of one to seven measures the intensity of False alarm adds anxiety about N. Korea, nuclear arms

swiftly to suppress the remarks but they already had been published, causing a storm among the country's political opposition. The Soviet Union, long an ally

there had been a nuclear accident "It was a bogus report," said a U.S. government official familiar with the incident who spoke on condition of anonymity. "There was no jump in temperature, there was nothing there."

But he said the brief panic reflects anxiety about Pyongyang's nuclear programme which, some say could produce a weapon within four to eight The United States is worried that if North Korea conducts a

nuclear test, South Korea and Japan would be pushed into the

nuclear arms race. Neither has

nuclear weapons, largely because

of U.S. pressure.

South Korea's defence minister warned recently that unless the North signs an agreement allowing international inspection of its nuclear facilities, he would order a commando raid to destroy them. His government moved

of Pyongyang's authoritarian goverument, warned last month it would stop supplying nuclear fuel for the North's reactors unless the agreement was signed. North Korea says it will sign if

Washington promises to remove its nuclear weapons in South Korea. The North insists that its reactors are only designed to manufacture power, which it now imports from China and the Soviet

Union. Another U.S. official said the North's two existing reactors are too small to produce power and a third, larger one under construction isn't hooked to a power grid.

A third official, also speaking

the North has one small 4 megawatt reactor from the Soviet Union, another 20-megawatt reactor it built and a third 200-megawatt plant scheduled for completion in the mid-1990s.

on condition of anonymity, said

"There's no indication of outside assistance" on the construction, he said. North Korean experts were trained in China and the Soviet

Union, the official said, but

they're using old nuclear technology and openly available designs to build their reactors. North Korea also has its own uranium to fuel the reactors. The only question, he said, is whether North Korea has the facility to turn spent reactor fuel

into the plutonium required for bomb production. Intelligence analysts strongly suspect, but aren't certain that a facility under construction at Yongbyon, next to the reactor

being built, is a reprocessing plant for plutonium. Concern about the nuclear programme is mounting as North Korea moves toward uncertainty

and possible instability of communism's first dynastic succes-

President Kim Il Sung, 79, is his son Kim Jong II.

cient support within the military and ruling Workers Party to assume leadership or whether he might be influenced by reforms that have swept away many Communist rulers over the past two

The United States still has 40,000 troops in South Korea.

The outside world has little leverage over North Korea, which has developed a selfsufficient arms industry for its 1

Mystery man who impersonated Column

British queen

wraps up U.S. visit LEXINGTON, Kentucky (A — Queen Elizabeth II bid goo bye to her Kentucky mares a thanked her bosts and police a motorcycle detail Sunday before boarding a plane home to Er land. The British monarch was ped up her U.S. visit with an private time touring horse far in Kentucky after highly visit stops with Prince Philip Washington, Florida and Ten They arrived on May 14. Phi returned to England after Ten The 65-year-old queen arriv Thursday in Kentucky and visit 10 horse farms to line up possil breeding seasons for five man the has stabled in the ctate. she has stabled in the state. T queen got a low-profile send at Blue Grass Airport. She spe only three minutes in public vice before boarding a British Aero pace 146. She bid goodbye to h Kentucky hosts, Will and Sar Farish of Versailles, and thank the police motorcuric detail.

the police motorcycle detail the escorted her in Kentucky.

closes. The choices range fro M-163 to Uzis and even a sm anti-aircraft gun costing eager è thusiasts \$1 a bullet to fin Machine-gans may seem to strictly adult entertainment, b organisers have promoted t U.S. Memorial Day holid weekend event in advertisement as family entertainment "givi (kids) the chance of a lifetime have fun discovering a new ho by." Children of any age can p to shoot the display guns. Alchol is banned and local law e

Scotland Yard

saying he was "grimly satisfied that Scotland Yard had final

Police help deliver twins in back of patrol car NEW ORLEANS (AP) - A

admitted to the surveillance, be

that he couldn't understand wit

it had taken so long for th

admission to come.

woman who woke up with sever labour pains flagged down police car and gave birth to twi boys in the back seat. The tw officers in the patrol car were o the lookout for a man with a gur when they caught sight of Louis Richardson on the roadside nea her home around 6 a.m. "I aske her what's wrong, and she sais she was going to have a baby, said officer Shann Brown. asked her how far along she was and she said, 'right now.'" Ms Richardson, 27, said she woke u in labour and called her step father, but his car was out of gas She went outside with a friend b try to flag down a passing motor ist to bring her to the hospital The officers rashed her to Tour Infirmary in less than three mi nutes. A nurse delivered Ma Richardson's twin sons, Derrich and Eric, with belp from th officers. Ms. Richardson alread has twin daughters who were born in 1987.

